ENDA Up: Back before Congress, Employment Non-Discrimination Act is 'closer than ever' to getting passed.

'Licking the Knife' First femme conference at the Victoria Theatre.



260 visions of gay life: Preview of 21st International Lesbian & Gay Film Fest.

see Arts section



AY REAL

Vol. 27 • No. 24 • 12 June 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 26 years

Pat gets raise, after raise,

SFAF executive's salary doubles in five years

by Cynthia Laird

an Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) Executive Director Pat Christen's annual salary has doubled in the last five years, and she received a sizable pay increase during the 1995-96 fiscal year, according to tax forms recently filed with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Her latest reported

Dalai Lama calls gay sex 'misconduct' for Buddhists

by Dennis Conkin

ny kind of lesbian and gay sex-ual activity is sexual miscon-duct if you are a member of the Buddhist faith, but consensual lesbian and gay sexual relationships are okay for non-Buddhists, according to the Dalai Lama, the world-revered leader of millions of Buddhists.

The clarification of his views was made a day before the religious figure was set to meet in San Francisco with lesbian and gay Buddhists, scholars, and others about the issue.

The statement was made in response to a reporter's question at a press conference during the second day of "Peacemaking, the Power of Non-Violence," a three-day conference at Bill Graham Civic Auditorium sponsored by California Institute For Integral Studies and Tibet House.

After distinguishing between Buddhist "believers and non-believers" the Dalai Lama said that "from a Bud-

this benevers and non-benevers the Dalai Lama said that "from a Buddhist point of view, men-to-men and women-to-women is generally considered sexual misconduct," and also reiterated that Buddhist teachings forbid masturbation and oral or anal sex. But for non-Buddhists, the Dalai Lama said that "mutually agreeable" homosexual relations can be of mutual benefit, enjoyable and "harmless." The Dalai Lama's meeting with gay and lesbians was scheduled for after Bay Area Reporter presstime. Further clarifications on his position, the reaction of lesbian and gay Buddhists and other religious and political leaders, and a report on the three-day conference on non-violence will appear in next week's B.A.R. *

salary of \$148,794 a year makes her among the highest paid executives of AIDS service organizations in the country. The IRS Form 990 for July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996 also shows that SFAF

through June 30, 1996 also shows that SFAF paid out almost \$1.2 million to 18 employees, including Christen. Those figures do not include benefits. The SFAF's annual budget for 1995-96 was reported at \$16.2 million. In fiscal year 1991-92, Christen was paid an annual salary of \$74,753. Christen's salary then jumped to \$92,429 for fiscal year 1992-93; \$118,545 for fiscal year 1993-94; and \$131,000 for fiscal year 1994-95, according to the agency's tax records.

and \$131,000 for fiscal year 1994-95, according to the agency's tax records.

The SFAF's overall budget also increased every year. It was listed at almost \$5.7 million for 1991-92; \$7.2 million in 1992-93, \$7.6 million for 1994-95.

The 1995-96 IRS forms were prepared by Deloitte & Touche, LLP, the foundation's accountants, and dated May 15. The foundation's annual budget of \$16.2 million included just over \$4 million coming from government grants, \$3.2 million from direct public support, and \$8.2 million from indirect public support. Other revenue came

page 31

PAT CHRISTEN'S SAL NOT INCLUDING BENEFITS \$148,794 131,000 \$118,545 \$92,429 \$74,753 At this rate, Pat's salary will exceed \$200,000 per year before the year 2000. Wouldn't you be smiling too? 1991-92 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95

President speaks on hate crimes

by Bob Roehr

resident Bill Clinton turned to the "hatred and division that still exist in our society" on June 7 in his regular Saturday radio address to the nation.

Among the incidents he cited was an anti-gay beating and robbery in Washington, DC. "Such hate crimes, committed solely because the victims have a different skin color or a different faith or are gays or lesbians, leave deep scars not only on the victims, but

leave deep scars not only on the victims, but on our larger community," he said. [For the full text of the speech, see page 25.] The cornerstone of the president's effort will be a national conference November 10, which will bring together experts and com-munity leaders to discuss how to ease the prob-lem. Attorney General Janet Reno has begun a review of laws concerning buts criming buts.

review of laws concerning hate crimes.

The President's remarks were not seen as controversial. In 1990, conservative Congressman Henry Hyde (R-Illinois) took a leadership role in passing the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, which included lesbians and osatistics Act, which included lesbians and agys. President George Bush invited gay lead-ers to a Rose Garden signing ceremony. Ear-lier in the week, even the Louisiana state leg-islature – not usually considered a bastion of progressive thinking – moved a bill that allows for enhanced penalties for hate crimes.

"President Clinton has the ability to set a

national tone that hate-violence will not be

tolerated," said Elizabeth Birch, executive di-

tolerated," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), in praising the initiative.

Kerry Lobel, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), welcomed "a more vigorous effort to stamp out these acts of violence." The Task Force took the lead in proposing and lobbying for the 1990 federal legislation. It was an important first step in documenting anti-gay violence. anti-gay violence. Keith Boykin, executive director of the



President Bill Clinton

National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum, was grateful for the President's remarks, but he thought they "broke no new ground." He sees the conference as an opportunity to further educate the American public on hate crimes against all groups, in-

cluding lesbians and gays.

"The conference is a sop to the left," said page **25** ▶

INSIDE ACT UP 29 BAR Talk 60 58 Bazaar Classifieds 32 GLAAD 14 Mailstrom 7 **Obituaries** 28 Open Forum 6 Our Man Friday 9 Out & About 54 Out There 39 63 Personals Sapphistication 10 **Sports Complex** 30

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FREE MEMBERSHIP

Plastic rap



S afer Sex Sluts David Spinner and Andy Timleck demonstrate how to unroll a condom at a Stop AIDS Project forum on oral sex at Blow Buddies (933 Harrison Street) June 10. The forum was designed to answer gay and bisexual men's concerns about the safety of oral sex. For the SAP brochure on this subject, call 621-7177.

Temporary restraining order granted against **Essential AIDS**

Accounts frozen, court date next week

by Cynthia Laird

temporary restraining order has been granted against Los Angeles-based "Essential AIDS, Inc." and four individuals suspected of operating a phony fundraising agency in the Bay Area, to prohibit any solicitations and to freeze known hark accounts. The defendants bank accounts. The defendants have also been ordered to appear in San Francisco Superior Court next Thursday, June 19, for an order to show cause hearing as the state is seeking a preliminary injunction.

The four individuals are iden-

tified in court documents as Svet-lana Gutman, aka Lana Gutman; Alexander Michelson, aka Alexander Mikhelson; Davit Tverskoy; and Larry H. Forks, aka Larry Howard II.

Belinda Johns, deputy attorney general, filed the order Thursday, June 5, which was signed by Judge William Cahill She has been inwithin Califf of the last been investigating Essential AIDS, Inc. for several months. San Francisco police, the district attorney's office, and Southern California law enforcement agencies have also been

investigating Essential AIDS.
In March, the San Francisco-based AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) staff and others alerted

Johns to the Los Angeles-based group's coin containers around San Francisco, which were similar to AEF's successful "Every penny

counts" jars, bearing a slogan that was nearly identical to AEF's. The Essential AIDS containers identified the group as based in Los Angeles and said that money Los Angeles and said that money raised would go to Stanford University, among other places. The university has no record of ever receiving funds from the group. Additionally, Essential AIDS is not registered with the state's Registry of Charitable Trusts. Joan Juster, development director at AEF, contacted the attorney general's office and the police, who launched an investigation.

who launched an investigation. AEF was very concerned that people might confuse the containers. thus affecting the agency's fundraising efforts. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been raised locally by AEF over the years through its successful penny

No liability, no nothing

According to Debra Hayes, chief in the special prosecutions unit at the district attorney's office, Essential AIDS is "a nothing" because it does not have incorpo-ration documents, nor is it tax-ex-empt. Last month she urged the public and merchants not to promote the organization, and said Essential AIDS has no protection from liability because it is not in-

corporated.

In March, Johns demanded that Essential AIDS provide financial records, which to date she has not received. The court order again asks for that information,

including bank account balances.
Juster said she couldn't really comment on the court action, but seemed relieved that something is being done to stop Essential AIDS from soliciting funds since it's not in compliance with state and fed-

"I'm very happy that authorities are taking this matter seriously," Juster told the B.A.R.

Under the temporary restraining order, no money can be raised in the name of Essential AIDS, Inc. pending next week's show cause hearing. Additionally, no funds can be disbursed or collect-ed through two listed accounts at

ed through two listed accounts at Great Western Bank, which have been frozen pending the outcome of next week's hearing.

Any funds the defendants have in their personal possession have been ordered to be placed in a blocked trust account while court action is pending. A 1997 Land Rover has been ordered placed in protective custody, according to court records.

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Good-bye to bingo: June 19 may see an end to the game of chance at Coming Home Hospice

Last call for bingo

Popular benefit closes June 19

by Cynthia Laird

fter 11 years of providing fun evenings and raising money for AIDS services, the popular Coming Home Hospice bingo games are coming to an end, at least temporarily. The last bingo bash, Mas, Queer, Ade II, takes place next Thursday, June 19 and will benefit Coming Home Hospice, Continuum HIV Day Care Services, and Maitri Services.

The bingo games have to end because Most Holy Redeemer

Church is undergoing renova-tion, including the bingo hall. Work is expected to take at least six months. It is not known whether the games will resume once remodeling is completed; some volunteers would like to revive the event, while others say that after 11 years, it's time to

Mas, Queer, Ade II will be held at Coming Home Hospice Bingo Hall, 100 Diamond Street from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Admission is

\$15 per person, or come in costume and save \$2. For more information, call (415) 552-

Co-chairs "Big" Ben Whitmer and Marc Colelli said they would love to have a record crowd next Thursday. There will be a cos-tume contest and raffle tickets available, plus all the fun of a bingo night. ▼

Jury convicts gay-basher, but only of misdemeanor

by Dennis Conkin

30-year-old man arrested in a gay-bashing last March 9 aboard the 14 Mission line was convicted Thursday, June 5 of misdemeanor assault and anti-gay hate crime.

Leo Stahmer faces a term in county jail instead of a state prison sentence, after a jury rejected felony charges in the case. The incident took place shortly after Stahmer, 33, boarded the bus at 26th and Mission Street, ac-

cording to a police report filed about the attack.

Stahmer sat next to two men and allegedly began verbally bat-tering them with anti-gay hate speech, including such comments as, "Look at the two little faggots:

Faggots is what you are."

As the men tried to get off the

bus, the defendant followed them and said, "What's up? You want some of me, you little faggots?" and punched one of the men in

the side of the head.

Assistant District Attorney Maria Bee, who prosecuted the case for the District Attorney's Office, said that a poll of jurors after the verdict indicated that they did not believe the single punch was likely to cause felony bodily in-

jury.
Muni spokeswoman Sharyn
Saslafsky told the Bay Area Reporter that she was not in a position to "second guess" the jury,
but said the conviction sent a clear

but said the conviction sent a clear message to the community.
"Our bottom line is that any kind of violence, including gaybashing, will not be tolerated on Muni, and people who commit such crimes will be prosecuted," Saslafsky said. ▼

Clarification:

Since the publication of last week's article "Gay Penguins shut out from Amsterdam," the gay and lesbian hockey team formerly known as the Penguins has changed its name and been accepted to represent San Francisco at the Gay Games in Amsterdam. People interested in playing with the team, now called the San Francisco Earthquakes, are urged to call Earthquakes chairwoman Karen McAfee at (510) 893-1109 or e-mail JHEINE@EYECON.COM.

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by Cynthia Laird

he Colorado-based Gill Foundation has awarded a \$20,000 grant to the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) in conjunction with its "Recreating Our Future" campaign, which aims to reduce by half the number of new HIV infections among gay and bisexu-al men of color by 2002. San Francisco-based NTFAP

will use the grant to convene a na-tional meeting of public health and policy experts to create a strategic

plan for "Recreating Our Future." The campaign got underway in January. It involves several components, including fundraising, integrating new research into community-based programs, conducting leadership training, conducting research and market-ing campaigns, and promoting public health policies that ensure gay and bisexual men of color are included as a target population for HIV prevention. Mario Solis-Marich, NTFAP's

Mario Sous-Marich, NI FAF's chief executive officer, said the Gill Foundation's support is critical as the agency "embarks on the diffi-cult task of instilling hope to myr-iad communities of color across the nation who experience persistent feelings of inaction, malaise, and resignation about HIV."

and resignation about HIV."
"Recreating Our Future" aims to reinvigorate HIV prevention efforts in communities of color. "The Gill Foundation's support indicates the broad level of support that 'Recreating Our Future' is garnering," Solis-March said.

The foundation's grant joins over 400 other supporters of NTFAP's campaign, among them philanthropist James Hormel and H. Alexander Robinson, a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, said Solis-Marich.
The Gill Foundation was es-

tablished about five years ago by Tim Gill, the openly gay co-founder of the successful Denverbased desktop publishing software company, Quark XPress. The foundation was initially set up to fight Colorado's Amendment 2, which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional

It now gives money to various organizations that serve the gay community, and focuses on national organizations.

The NTFAP is a national mi-

nority organization dedicated to ending the HIV pandemic through prevention education, client services, technical assistance, and community organizing.

Contributions to "Recreating Our Future" can be sent to: NTFAP, 973 Market Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94103. For more information, call NTFAP at (415) 356-8127.





Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community Since 1984



From 'Brothers' to 'New Village'

New name for NTFAP program for gay black men

by Cynthia Laird

he Brothers Network, a local HIV prevention program for African-American men who love men, will be renamed "New Village" effective July 1. The program is part of the San Fran-cisco-based National Task Force

on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP). Christopher Smith, program director of New Village, said the name is being changed to better reflect the new direction and mis-

reflect the new direction and mission of the program.

The revitalized NTFAP has come at a crucial time when HIV/AIDS continues to have a disproportionate impact on the African-American community, especially men who love men, regardless of sexual orientation, he added.

The fact that African-Ameris seek treatment later and thereby progress through the disease spectrum faster than their non-black counterparts, coupled with the oftentimes hateful, judg-mental, and casually indifferent response from the wider African-

American community has prompted us to essentially recreate the black gay, bisexual, and transgender experience," Smith said.

New Village will provide a multitude of HIV prevention services, including discussion groups, intensive group meetings, personal development retreats, prevention case management, prevention case management, street-venue outreach, intern-ships, and job training.

The client services component will offer treatment advocacy, in-tensive case management, client

tensive case management, cheft advocacy, and support services. The genesis of New Village comes from an Ethiopian proverb proclaiming that "it takes a village to raise a child," which reinforces the value of community support. This concept, in particular, holds true in gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender African-American communities in the current exi-gency of HIV/AIDS. Smith said that the program

will continue to work toward creating a "new village" inside the city; a village defined not by clear borders, but rather by a network

of relationships and services, all designed to reduce the rate of new HIV infections in the African-American gay, bisexual, and trans-gender communities, and to promote wellness among HIV-im-pacted members of these commu-

"New Village moves beyond the need for culturally competent and appropriate programming for African-American men who love men and takes it a step further, men and takes it a step further, calling them to action to move beyond themselves by investing in their community," said Mario Solis-Marich, chief executive officer of NTFAP.

cer of NTFAP.

This call to action will help in cutting the rate of infection among gay and bisexual men of color by 50 percent by the year 2000, effectively halting the epidemic. "Recreating Our Future" is the name of this campaign. [See related story.] related story. | ▼

For more information about the New Village program, call (415) 356-8140.



New facility to open, ease AIDS housing crunch (some)

by Dennis Conkin

unique community partnership comprised of banks, housing development corporations, architects, contractors, and a local non-profit group serving people with mental disabilities, has transformed a long Street single occupancy see. Jones Street single occupancy residence hotel into a 58-unit oasis for formerly homeless adults.

tor formerly homeless adults.

The Lyric Hotel at 140 Jones
Street (near Turk) operated by
Conard House, a local nonprofit
agency, will provide a supported
living environment for people
with psychiatric problems who
also have substance abuse problems or AIDS.

A grand opening celebration of the Lyric will be held on Wednesday, June 18 at 11 a.m. at 140 Jones Street. Refreshments will follow.

will follow.

The facility is part of the federal Housing and Urban Development Shelter Plus Care program, but services are optional, according to Richard Heasley, Conard House executive director.

Services at the renovated site research than the lightent of the program of th

are geared toward individual resi-

'It depends on what the actu-



Finishing touches: Harold Cole lays linoleum as the on-site medical clinic for residents of the Lyric Hotel nears completion.

al individual needs are: certainly case management, and whatever other services, are going to allow residents to live independently," Heasley said

Heasley said
Formerly homeless residents
will soon move into carpeted and
furnished private rooms with
kitchenettes and private bathrooms, according to Heasley.
All 58 rooms were rented to eligible homeless clients ten days
after applications were taken last
April

April.

Construction on the site started in March 1996, and involved a

variety of lenders such as the Bank of American Community Development Bank, Corporation For Supportive Housing, Federal Home Loan Bank, and the City

and County of San Francisco.

The project's developer was the nonprofit Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation. ▼

For more information, contact Conard House, Inc. at (415)

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Layoffs at Names Project

by Dennis Conkin

he Names Project announced on Monday, June 2 that 16 staff positions and six contract positions at the agency would be eliminated or reduced to half time due to shortfalls in projected revenues for the fiscal year.

The cuts will reduce the number of staff at the agency from 51

The cuts will reduce the number of staff at the agency from 51 to 42, according to news reports.

The nonprofit group has revised its budget downward from \$5.2 million to \$4.7 million, and reports that revenues from T-shirts and other items sold at displays of the quilt panels commemorating people who have died of AIDS have dropped off by nearly 60 percent.

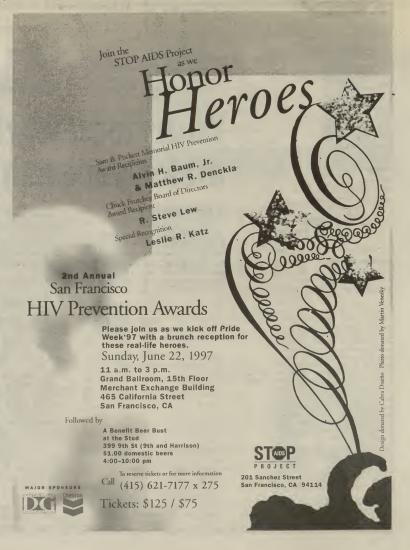
Attendance at displays of the Names Project Quilt have also dropped by 50 percent, according to the agency.



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Christen charity

ince the advent of triple drug therapy for HIV infection, the news media have begun to report more frequently on how funding for AIDS service organizations has begun to dry up. The public's perception that the epidemic is over, or at least controllable, has diminished the urgency to some prospective doors and regency to some prospective donors and resulted in the closure of one AIDS group after another.

Over at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the city's largest AIDS organization, if the money supply is dwindling it isn't evident from the paychecks handed out to its staff. Executive Director Pat Christen, who came under fire for collecting a salary of \$135,00 in 1995, got a fat 11 percent pay raise for 1996. The figures aren't filed for what she makes now, but last year she pulled down \$148,794 a year, which figures out to approximately \$570 per working day.

The second- and third-highest paid salary members aren't lagging far behind.
The development director makes about \$120,000 per year, and the program director gets around \$98,000, according to figures the foundation released to the Internal Over at the San Francisco AIDS Foun-

tor gets around \$95,000, according to rig-ures the foundation released to the Internal Revenue Service. That means that more than \$1,000 is paid every single day of the year just for those three workers. Grassroots AIDS activists, who are tired

Grassroots AIDS activists, who are tired of battling for more housing money and AIDS Drug Assistance Program funds, are not happy with Christen's \$72-per-hour wage, and question whether the foundation is squandering money that could be better used to feed, clothe, house, and medicate those in need. At her present rate of salary increases, they point out, she stands to earn over \$200,000 per year by the year 2000; in 20 years, if the epidemic or the foundation last that long, she'll be getting over a million dollars per year.

Is there a point when the executive di-

dollars per year.

Is there a point when the executive director of a charity would say "enough is enough" and refuse a salary increase? We've long heard people at the foundation talk about Christen's amazing leadership; we think she could prove it by refusing to feed

tunk she could prove it by refusing to feed any more deeply at the trough. The appetite for AIDS funds is powerful, obviously, and nobody wants to walk away from a salary increase in our American Plu-tocracy where money=worth, but the im-portant thing to remember is that donors to

money to make life easier and better for people with AIDS, not for an executive director to qualify for whatever level comes after an AMEX plat-

It is time for the founda-

It is time for the founda-tion to acknowledge that it is totally out of touch with the times, and to start reining in its expenses, beginning with its payroll. It also needs to understand that it deserves whatever wrath comes its way over these revelations, be-cause it has no real mechanism for com-plaints, suggestions, or any other kind of community input. It needs to inaugurate a community input. It needs to inaugurate a system to make itself more responsive and more responsible at once. Setting the system up may require a few people to work a few extra hours, but let's face it: they're well compensated for the task.

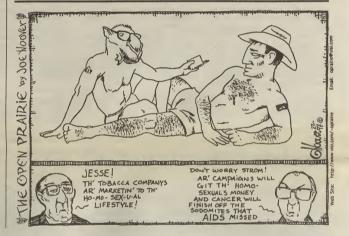
And speaking of well compensated, an article in this week's U.S. News and World Report came closer to cracking the shell of secrecy around the producer of the AIDS Rides, Dan Pallotta. According to that story, Mr. Pallotta makes more than a quarter of a million bucks a year in salary. As the owner of his company, we suspect there are other aspects of his benefit package (such as profit-sharing, a concept that, in the context of AIDS, makes us shudder) that

text of AIDs, makes us shudder) that haven't come to the surface yet.
Once again, it's a case of someone who feels it's perfectly all right to get wealthy off the literal sweat of other people who are trying to make the world a better place. Someday, when this epidemic is all over and we don't have to worry

about day-to-day survival, the community will have time to put together a real balance sheet of who helped, and who was just in it to get a fatter wallet. And when that day comes, Mr. Pallotta – and so many others –

will have a lot to answer for.

Finally, and on a happier note, President Bill Clinton reminded many of us in the gay and lesbian community this weekend why we voted for him in the first (and second) place. His weekly radio address, which has often been a weakly radio address in the past, spoke eloquently this week about the need for Americans to wage an all-out assault on hate crimes, including crimes against gays and lesbians. If you want to thank him for and lesolans. If you want to thank film for seizing the bully pulpit and being a president for everyone — and you should — call the White House at (202) 456-1111 or e-mail president@whitehouse.gov. ▼



Editorial

Your homework for UC: make a speech or write a paper

by Jessea Greenman

n July 17, 1997, for the first time in the n July 17, 1997, for the first time in the history of the University of California, the Board of Regents will discuss the issue of domestic partner benefits for its students, staff, and faculty. The meeting will be in San Francisco at the Laurel Heights location. Public comment will be in the

morning.
This is a two-part call. We are at the information-gathering stage. What we seek is to identify people with UC connections who are willing to:

Speak before the regents on that date, orWrite a letter to the regents prior to that

date.

What do we mean by "UC connections?" We need:

- · UC alumni, or
- parents or children or partners of UC stu-dents, or
- · parents or children or partners of UC staff,
- parents or children or partners of UC faculty, or
- parents or children or partners of people who would work at Cal, teach at Cal, or attend Cal except that, since it doesn't offer domestic partner benefits, you have chosen

We also need "people of the cloth" (ministers, rabbis, priests, etc.) who are willing to speak or write to the Regents in favor of LGBT families and domestic partner benefits from a religious/ethical/moral point of view and to identify themselves as "church" officials.

If you fit into any of the above cate gories — and please share this message with others who do — let me know. We may be able to help people get to the meeting. I will also let you know the phone number to call to sign up to speak (speaking time is highly curtailed; usually one to three minutes), plus an address to write **Guest Opinion**

to reach the Regents, and an address where you can send a cc to us (and let us know whether we

can read your letter aloud at the meeting).

The Regents are mostly moderate and conservative Republicans, since most are appointees of the governor. Many have corporate affiliations. Most are wealthy. Most do not think they know anyone who is LGBT. Most do not know much about this issue, and what they do "know" is based upon neg-ative myths and stereotypes. Many still be-lieve that being LGBT is morally wrong. We are out to educate them that we are family, we are everywhere, we are human, we are entitled to equal rights and equal pay for equal work, we have children (who support us), we have parents (who support us), and we have legitimate needs for domestic partner

benefits, and we are part of UC's family.

If you know any Regent personally or know someone who does, please let us know so we can pick your brains about how best to approach that person, and think

about coming out to that person.

If you know any supportive corporate leaders or know someone who does, ditto the above. The Regents already have the economic facts about

this issue, but they need to hear from CEOs who have already provided domestic partner ben-

efits. Aside from the reality that this will *not* cost

the University much, the fact is the University is way behind in the highly competitive marketplace for top faculty, staff, and students. Almost all the University's comparison schools (peer institutions) have provided benefits, including both public/state and major private universities. major private universities.

Jessea Greenman is a student services Jessea Greenman is a student services staffperson at UC Berkeley, and a member of UCB's domestic partner task force. She can be reached by e-mail at jessea@uclink4.berkeley.edu or by phone at (510) 642-4249.

LETTERS

Lost his religion

On June 1 I attended the event called "Losing My Religion." I was interested in the event because I Religion. I was interested in the event because I thought it was going to deal with GLBT people who have lost or are losing their religion and would have some alternatives to offer. After reading the list of participants, I realized how wrong I was. It was the usual list of Christian folks with a token rabbi. No other religions represented. No one to express the views of those who either do not believe or have given up on religion.

those who either do not believe or have given up on religion.

A call to the organizer asking why we were not represented led me to a brick wall. I think this was an injustice to the community at large.

With the exception of Janice Mirikitani, the only self-identified heterosexual speaker, who gave a very moving and thoughtful account of her journey out of and back into religion, the rest of the speakers rambled on with sentimental anecdotes leading them to a god that they defined to their own liking. The amazing references to biblical beliefs (none of which I recall were documented) were right out of a fairy tale call were documented) were right out of a fairy tale religion and not at all related to the book that I have read and studied.

For anyone who may be interested, the Gay and Lesbian Atheists and Humanists have regular meetings in San Francisco. Call me at 415-824-5445 for time and place. Also, watch for our ad in the Pride Issue of the B.A.R.

Dick Hewetson

Cultural enrichment

There's nothing worse than an East Coast Intellectual Snob. That's how Daniel Harris and his ideas in *The Rise and Fall* of Gay Culture strike me. Daniel: you have a right to your opinions, but please don't lecture me on which divas

please don't lecture me on which divas I should be obsessing over! If you want some Gay Culture, I suggest you visit one of our love-ly San Francisco sex clubs or outdoor cruising areas, and see what real homos, who don't live totally in their heads, are doing for cultural enrichment.

Downright shame

Downright shame

I had an experience this weekend that solved once and for all in my mind the dilemma of what to do about the sex clubs. I went to Mack's on 10th Street on Friday night. It was late, it was dark, and the music was loud. Some of the patrons were obviously "high," but I felt that was their business. The first thing I encountered was a healthy-looking man in a sling. I've seen it before — no big deal. Except he wasn't being "fisted," and he wasn't with one man. The club members were taking turns with him — and no one was bothering to put on condoms. I guess I figured that was their business too, although so many of the participants were young and beautiful, and it seemed like a downright shame. Then I saw it: In a dark corner stood a tall man, who might have been handsome were it not for his somewhat emaciated face. Men stood a tall man, who might have been handsome were it not for his somewhat emaciated face. Men were lining up to do him orally. The "vibes" didn't feel right, and when I moved closer I realized why: He was in the later stages of AIDS, and his body was covered with lesions! And men were lining up! I became physically ill and left. I don't go to sex clubs enough to know if this is the norm, or two isolated incidents — but the image of the young healthy kids lining up will haunt me for a long time.

Tom K. Pinsky Saratoga, CA

Stadium games

Now that the ruckus over the Jack Davis party has finally died down, I want to say that the party pushed me more in favor of the stadium idea, not less. If we could be certain that crazed sports fans would rush to a new stadium, carve each other up (using the design of their choice), and urinate on each other, I think most sensible San Franciscans would see the

merit of the new stadium.

I hope Mayor Brown realizes the potential of this strategy.

> Charles E. Wagner San Francisco

Strange penmanship

I blame my peculiar handwriting. In the letter you printed May 29, I meant to say Cintra Wilson in her Fridays-only Examiner column "printed," not "pirated," my observation that since Jack Davis's party I've been careful to order my Jack Daniels neat. Please accept my apologies.

Strange de Jim

Save your liver

Save your liver

Sweet Lips jokes about imbibing brewskies, but the Bud Lite \$1 donation-per-case-sold-in-June thing is not funny. There are less stupid, destructive ways to raise money for a good cause. Ben and Jerry's could be persuaded to give 1-2% of a particular month's citywide profit, a bunch of queer realtors could hand over 5-10% of their collective monthly or quarterly profit. Hell, Levi Strauss could make peace and toss some cash the gawdfaddas' way. Dontchathink that might save a few livers?

No friends of gays

I have noticed recently that many gay bars are selling Coors Beer. It should be noted that although the Coors Brewery has come a long way to being gay-friendly, people need to understand that the Coors family, who own the brewery, are not gay-friendly. The Coors family donates large sums of money to very anti-gay causes. Part of every dollar you spend on Coors goes to work against the gay community.

Rio Nido, CA

Repent, O Peifer

ve given myself some time to cool off before writing this. I was extremely angered by Deborah Peifer's unfair, totally-missing-the-point slam of Sally Lowe Whitehead's book, The Truth Shall Set You Free. I do not know Ms. Peifer, but from her article she sounds like an atheist and a man-hating feminist.

I would be interested to read a more open-minded review of the book from your pool of book critics. It seems Ms. Peifer's hatred for men has clouded every aspect of her reading what was actually written. Moreover, she totally ignored the intent of the book, which was not "The Big Revelation," as she called it. Rather, as the rest of the title suggests, it is A Family Process from Fundament lives and New York. as she called it. Rather, as the rest of the title suggests, it is A Family's Passage from Fundamentalism to a New Understanding of Faith, Love, and Sexual Identity. It was their struggle with their fundamentalist beliefs that kept the author and her husband married for over 20 years and kept him in the closet. "The Big Revelation" was only possible once they got past the fundamentalist hold on their lives (which they did not just to be able to drink wine, as Ms. Peifer suggests.) The New Understanding they obtained is not a for-The New Understanding they obtained is not a for-gone conclusion of their Passage, but one that is a tes-tament to what Faith and Love can achieve.

tament to what Faith and Love can achieve.

Obviously Ms. Peifer is not one of the many gays and lesbians who have struggled with accepting their homosexuality despite having strong religious beliefs. It is hard enough to accept being-a homosexual when society puts you down, without also having to reconcile God's part in that acceptance. However, Ms. Peifer seems to care as little for what God thinks as she does for what Man, as opposed to Woman, thinks. Therefore, she is not the audience for this book, and her review is unfair in that she has no ability to get beyond her own agenda and personal history (she would her own agenda and personal history (she would probably prefer "herstory") to see the book for what

it really is.

By contrast, here is part of one review by two people who did read it the fair way: "At a time when mistruths about gays and lesbians exceed real understanding, and in a year when so-called 'Christian Armies' have publicly emerged proudly attacking Gays and Lesbians, The Truth Shall Set You Free reveals that prejudice in the name of God is the cruelest of all and that love for all people is God's real goal."

—Steve Gunderson (Republican Representative from WI) and Rob Morris, authors of House and Home.

Finally, Ms. Peifer's attack on the author for not dedicating the book to any woman is extremely petty and further proof of her man-hating beliefs. Anyone raised in a fundamentalist home knows that they be-

and further proof of her man-hating beliefs. Anyone raised in a fundamentalist home knows that they believe men are more important than women. As a result, the author wrote that because she bore six sons, she believed she was blessed by God. The key is she believed it when they were part of the fundamentalist sect. To assume she still feels that way simply because the book's dedication is only to men (and to add the very low blow by implying the author returned their adopted daughter because she wasn't beautiful) is ridiculous and wrong. Is the author at fault because she is surrounded in her daily life entirely by men? And does it not make perfect sense thas he would dedicate the book to the very people who helped her in writing it, and who were an integral part of the story, all of whom just happen to be men? It appears Ms. Peifer would expect the author to ignore the obvious in an attempt to satisfy her feminist beliefs. Demanding their not yet obtained but definitely deserved equality doesn't require feminists to put down men. Thankfully, not all feminists do. Ms. Peifer unfortunately seems to be one that does. unfortunately seems to be one that does

> Gregg Gour San Francisco



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Disillusioned rider

Thank you for shedding light on the unwillingness of Pallotta Teamworks to adequately account for their production fees relative to the various AIDS Rides. I must say that I was most impressed with the Boston New York AIDS Ride, which I completed last September. It was one of the most exhilarating experiences of my life, especially in light of the fact that with transfer service. eight months earlier I was so sick that I could hardly walk. My eyebrows were raised, however, by more than a few extravagances. Of course, it was never ex-

than a few extravagances. Of course, it was never explained what was paid for by corporate donors, and what was paid for from pledge moneys.

I was, nonetheless, excited about taking part in this spring's California AIDS Ride, but I suffered the ignominy of falling off of my bicycle and breaking my left elbow only two weeks before the June first commencement. My rider representative seemed genuinely concerned about my situation, but I am shocked that no one from the Ride Office or the Positive Pedalers has bothered to telephone me to express consolation, let alone mail a get well card. As of this writing, I have no idea of who pledged on my behalf, or in what amount. After the Boston-NY ride, it took several months for such an accounting. I arrived in Boston sweating bullets that my pledge commitment had not been met, but I was simply told everything had been covered. My cast comes off this week, and I have every confidence I'll be back on my bike soon, but this confidence in the back on my bike soon, but this confidence in the back on my bike soon, but this confidence in the back on my bike soon, but this confidence in the back on my bike soon, but this confidence in the back on my bike soon, but this confidence in the back of but this experience has left me very disillusioned.

> Eric D. Bernhoft San Francisco

More than a bake sale

I was disappointed and discouraged to see your headline "The AIDS Riders are off... But where's the money going?" With over 3,000 riders and crew leaving on the major fundraiser for AIDS on Sunday, the article should have been upbeat, supportive, and encouraging. Instead, we got a dose of the usual "stir it up" headline and writing, filled with old news. Anyone who has done fundraising knows the age old question of how much is too much for production costs! Hold the debate till next week's issue!

The Ride is more than a cash generator for AIDS services, it is about empowering 3,000 people. The physical and mental challenges that the riders and support crew face are intense. Support for this type of personal growth should be encouraged and sup-

ported by the community.

I personally raised well over my minimum pledge amount, most of it from sources outside of the Bay Area, and much of it from nontraditional sources of funds. I approached people who either are tapped out and are supporting me, or they are supporting my commitment and challenge. If a percentage of these funds goes to producing an event that will be memorable and provide me with a safe, supportive envi-ronment, so be it. We need to remember it takes more than a bake sale to raise significant amounts of money

Barry Tereshkow Oakland, California

[We have said all along that the riders are heroes, but no matter how much you want to read (and we want to report) upbeat news, the fact remains that the overhead isn't just a percentage: it's somewhere between 80 percent (for the least successful AIDS Rides) and 40 percent, which is still about twice what most charitable organizations consider acceptable.]

A gamble with United

I caught the article about United Air Lines reneging on its agreement with S.F. on the Domestic Part-

ners Ordinance.
So, who's surprised? Uncle Al is only mimicking what Uncle Sam's been doing for years.
After all, when Mr. A and his merry band of Supes tried to hold Uncle Al hostage with a long-term property lease at SFO, they knew it was a gamble. Turn the leader and you turn the herd (clear across the country and maybe the world). No surprise that Uncle Al and his pals in the Air Transport Association (ATA) would man the ramparts

would man the ramparts.

But wait, maybe Uncle Al and his buddies aren't But wait, maybe Uncle Al and his buddies aren't all that tight. Rumor has it that Uncle Al's proposed new wing of the gigantic new SFO terminal has been moved ahead in the Expansion Program's schedule. If the Program is flagging, as indicated by the \$500 million "bump" last year in the Program's estimated costs, then moving Uncle Al to the front of the line may provide one helluva two-year competitive advantage over his competition (ATA members).

And, should the Program run out of steam (\$) and have to be curtailed or abbreviated, that two years might translate to ten or twenty.

might translate to ten or twenty.

Maybe, just maybe, a little exposure to daylight might change Uncle Al's mind on the domestic partner issue. After all, I understand we do have some of ours at the Airport.

"Hero" Bosch San Francisco

Preserve Women Studies

[The following letter was sent to President Robert Corrigan, San Francisco State University:] As an alumna of San Francisco State and a dele-

As an alumna of San Francisco State and a delegate to the National Women's (IWY) Conference in 1977, I was proud that my alma mater was among the first universities to establish a Women Studies Department. Last year, when I was a delegate to the California Women's Agenda Conference held on the SFSU campus, I was led to believe that Women Studies was still intact.

Lam shocked to learn that the focus has been not

I am shocked to learn that the focus has been narrowed to women of third world countries and that courses with lesbian content are being discontinued and their instructors dismissed. It is ironic that lesbians are now the object of discrimination by the

women of color they helped to empower. The reason:
"Lesbians have no identity outside the United States."
If the policy-makers within the Women Studies
Department believe that, they are the ones who
should be fired for their ignorance. At the highly publicized United Nations conference on Women held in China in 1995, issues of lesbians and the sexual rights of women were on the official agenda. The women's movement is global. It embraces all women regardless of race, ethnic origin, age or sexual orientation—within or without the United States.

Getting other departments to pick up lesbian courses temporarily does not solve the problem. Homophobia has a direct effect on all women (and men) mophobia has a direct effect on all women (and men) through societal enforcement of stereotypical gender roles. Women Studies policy-makers would be well-advised to review the California Women's Agenda before destroying what was once a model program that we could all be proud of. The CWA report is available from the Women's Intercultural Network, 1950 Hayes St., #2, San Francisco CA 94117. I would also recompand the book Hayenbakits A Worston of Sariyer by mend the book *Homophobia: A Weapon of Sexism* by Suzanne Pharr, available from The Women's Project, 2224 Main St., Little Rock AR 77206.

I would hope that the University and the Women Studies Department will reconsider curriculum policies. When affirmative action in education is in jeopardy, it is important that women unite to preserve Women Studies.

San Francisco

One-handed salute

One-handed salute

Thanks so much for Gary Morris's review of Good Vibrations' "Salute to Masturbation" show, held May 8 at the Roxie, which I curated and Sarah Kennedy edited. Morris saw last year's tape (because Sarah and I were editing this year's tape until the last possible minute), so the show he reviewed was in a couple of ways different from last year's. Morris writes: "Salute to Masturbation is sexy and fun, and best of all, refreshingly egalitarian, equally divided between men and women, gay and straight, old and young. One complaint: Did I blink, or are there no blacks in this show?"

Gary did blink, although it is true that my search for physical/racial diversity last year yielded more clips featuring people of Asian/Pacific and Latina/o heritage than African-Americans. Frankly, it was far heritage than African-Americans. Frankly, it was far less diverse than I wanted it to be, and I spent some time seeking out material to add to this year's show to more fully represent the diversity of Bay Area audiences. Working with porn clips as well as educational video, I still found an overwhelmingly slender, Caucasian, youthful populace up on the screen. And in our efforts at Good Vibes to seek out more diverse videos, we still find many that play on racial stereo.

videos, we still find many that play on racial stereo-types we'd rather not promote.

It's just not an ideal picture. It has to do with the economics of the industry, with inertia, and with racism. I am delighted to hear suggestions of clips for racism. I am delighted to hear suggestions of clips for future shows (you can send me a note c/o Good Vibrations), and our video team would also be glad to hear your readers' suggestions of diverse (and high-quality) videos. More than that, if you ever get the chance to make sexy videos - help fill this gap! We think a solution to low-quality or otherwise objectionable porn is more, and better, porn. What we need its more new visions - so get out your cameras every. is more new visions - so get out your cameras, every-

And don't forget to celebrate National Masturbation Month, whether or not you do it with video.

> Carol Queen Continuing Education Director, Good Vibrations San Francisco

Frosted hair rights?

Re: Frosted Hair/Gay Rights, What's this guy talk-ing about? Gay rights? Bottom line, you don't go to work with frosted hair. Hilton's employee manual is clear on this.

clear on this.

It is unconscionable that my dignity and rights as a gay man are so recklessly trivialized by giving serious coverage to a silly fight between an employee and his employer on an issue as frivolous as this.

John Hutchinson Oakland, CA

Election aftermath

by Wayne Friday

t wasn't the most important local election San Francisco has seen in recent years, but it certainly was one of the more in-teresting. Although there were no candidates on the June 3 ballot, there were certainly winners and losers among the city's political movers and shakers once the dust settled.

The 49ers stadium complex (Props. D and F) was one of the most hard-fought campaigns in recent years. The expensive (\$2.5 million) 49er effort eventually

million) 49er effort eventually carried the day, but only by around 1,000 votes. However, it did pass, and if all goes as planned (read: promised), San Francisco's most cherished sports team should be playing in their new stadium at Candlestick Point on opening day of the year 2000.

The 49ers hope to break ground on the new stadium/shopping complex by the middle of next year. The current Niner home, 3-Com Park, will be torn down by the fall of 1999, assuming that baseball's Giants are on schedule with building their own new stadium. The National own new stadium. The National Football League has, in ad-

dition, promised that a Super Bowl will be played in the new stadium soon after its com-pletion.

The winners? Cer tainly Mayor Willie Brown is on that list. He put his politi-cal prestige on **Our Man Friday** the line. Al-

the line. Al-though Brown gets credit for working tirelessly for the well-fi-nanced propositions, he obvious-ly couldn't have done it without ly couldn't have done it without the support of people like Sen. Dianne Feinstein, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, former Mayor Frank Jordan, all but one of the Board of Supes, the endorsement of the SF Independent and both dailies, plus larged Agush.

Independent and both dailies, plus lots of dough.

Jack Davis, the political consultant whose birthday soirée made him and San Francisco the butt of ribaldry nationwide, once again is "king of the hill" among Northern California campaign managers. Probably even more than the big-name endorsers, it was Davis' calculations that pulled out the last-minute, razor-thin win in a city that clearly had ambivalent feelings about the new

Davis knew that the votes needed to win would have to come from those voters who usually don't bother to vote in local elections, and he got those voters to the polls. Indeed, it was support from largely minority districts, where voter turnout is traditionally low, that squeaked the two measures to victory. (The heavily gay/lesbian precincts voted against the stadium complex by an overwhelming 61-39 percent

Losers? Well, **Tom Ammiano**was the only supe not beating the
bushes for it. Then there's state
Senator **Quentin Kopp**, perhaps Senator **Quentin Ropp**, pernaps the stadium's chief opponent, who debated Mayor Brown on the issue. And, of course, one would have to add political consultant **Clint Reilly** to that group.

It must be noted that the extreme closeness of the vote, despite the pro D and F forces having outspent their opponents by

ing outspent their opponents by about 30-to-l, suggests that the line between the winners and the



Stadium stumper: Brown fires up the troops at D & F headquarters

losers is so narrow as to be almost transparent. I say, the damned election is over. Bring on those promised thousands of jobs that even those who voted against the stadium complex have to be excited about.

Personally, I'm glad to hear the

Personally, I'm glad to hear the money-bags owner of the Niners say publicly that they will build the "best stadium anywhere" and that the 49ers will be here "forever." And for the true Niner faithful the front of for the true Niner
faithful, the front office tells me that by
next April or
May, information may be released on the

sale of luxury poxes and seat prices. The luxury boxes will for sure be beyond my modest means, but hopefully, I can finally become a season ticket-holder.

Politics and people

D.A. **Terence Hallinan** will be accompanied by a large group of his gay and lesbian employees in this year's pride parade.

Meanwhile, in Bozeman, Mon-

surgical masks if they must go outside during this weekend's gay pride rally have been traced to a KKK activist's post office box in

that city.

In Orlando, Florida, Sunday's seventh annual Gay Day Event brought out some 75,000 gays and lesbians (and their supporters) to party at the Magic Kingdom, Universal Studios, and Sea World, with numerous San Franciscans in attendance. in attendance

In New Hampshire, Governor Jeanne Shaheen (D) last week signed into law a measure making that state the 11th to offer gays and lesbians protection against discrimination in the areas of em-ployment, housing and public accommodation

New Orleans, Mayor Marc Morial has announced that the Crescent City will now provide health insurance for the domestic partners of its gay and lesbian em-ployees. City officials say they ex-pect at least one percent of the city's 6,400 employees to use the

coverage.

Good work and mucho congrats to Assemblymembers Carole Migden and Sheila Kuehl for the hard work they both put in on the Assembly floor last week when that body approved a bill barring discrimination against gays and lesbians on the job. The Assembly barely rejected another Assembly barely rejected another bill to ban discrimination against

gay students in public schools. (And yes, Speaker Bustamante, we do want to know why you and three other Democratic Assembly members ducked and didn't vote

members ducked and didn't vote on the latter bill!). Where there's smoke... What's this? Attorney General **Dan Lun-gren** (the sure GOP nominee for governor next year) is suddenly willing to support the creation of a University of California mari-iuman research center (only if sign juana research center (only if significant changes are made, how-ever). Been looking at those old Proposition 215 election results again, Mr. Lungren?

Look for a state initiative next year that would allow casino-like slot machines in that playground in the desert, Palm Springs. I'm told that at least a couple of the incumbent supervisors up

for re-election next year are think-ing about not running. Remem-ber, those who do win next year will be forced to run again after only two years because district election of supes kicks in in the year 2000.
Add the name of Andrea

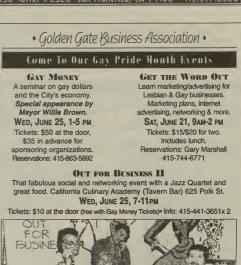
Shorter to those being men-tioned as Mayor Brown's possible appointee to replace future City Treasurer and current Supe Treasurer and current Supe Susan Leal. Incidentally, friends and supporters of treasurer can-didate Leal are holding a fundrais-er/kickoff dinner for her Wednesday, June 25, at the swank Vertigo Restaurant on Montgomery Street (5:30-7:30 p.m., \$250, 495-

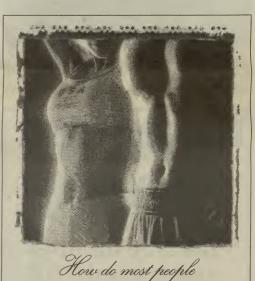
3368 for info).

If you really want to meet President **Bill Clinton**, you could do so by paying \$500 and attending the California Victory '98 luncheon in support of Senator Bar-bara Boxer and the national De-mocratic Senatorial Campaign Committee on Monday, June 23, 11:30 a.m., at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (510/ 232-8334 for tickets

My Quote of the Week is from President Clinton's weekly radio address to the nation on Saturday. address to the nation on Saturday. He spoke out on the issue of hate crimes and focused on recent attacks on African-Americans, gays and Jewish-Americans: "Such hate crimes, committed solely because the victims have a different skin color or a different faith or are gays and lesbians, leave deep scars on our larger community. They on our larger community. They weaken the sense that we are one people with common values and a common future. As part of our preparation for the new century, it is time for us to mount an all-out assault on hate crimes, to punish them swiftly and severely, and to do more to prevent them from happening in the first place." ▼







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July 12-13, 1997 San Francisco lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning youth leadership

Over the weekend of July 12-13, 1997, the second annual Young Loud & Proud conference for lesbian, gay, bis exual, transgender and questioning youth will be held in San Francisco. Last year's conference drew over 400 youth from around the country, exploring and organizing around issues ranging from youth activism to queer spirituality. Young, Loud & Proud is by youth, for youth and about youth. The main goal of Young, Loud & Proud is to empower lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth to become more active participants in our own lives.

For more info, or if you'd like to help volunteer for the conference, please call Joseph at...

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he seventh annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Latina/o Cultural Pride Festival takes place June 13-14 and June 20-at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts (MCCLA), 2868 Mission Street, SF. The Visual Art Exhibit reception is Friday, June 13, 5:30-8 p.m. in the MCCLA gallery. (The photo above is from the 1992 VAE.) The Poetry Reading (also in the gallery), conducted in both English and Spanish, is Saturday, June 14, 6-8 p.m. The Mr. and Ms. Gay Safe Latino contest is at MCCLA on Friday, June 20, starting at 7 p.m. For more information on these events, call 415/821-1155.

Culture clubbing

by Beth Elliott

ound here there's been a spate of new books – and reviews, author interviews, and general commentary on their meaning – having to do with gay life and whether gay culture has become meaningles and self-destructive. In this paper, Robert Knafo and Jim Coughenour went to town on Daniel Harris's claim gay culture is in decline. Elsewhere, Jack Fertig hauled off and lit into la vie en aueer for the way lit into la vie en queer for the way the "circuit" of AIDS fundraising mega-parties, and the importance of being attractive at same, may have resulted in a counterproduc-tive competition for bedpost notches at the expense of safer

sex.

The reaction from this space, after astonishment, would be that we might be taking the notion of having a culture far too seriously. Yeah, it's a really happy thing that we socialize and engage in many other activities among lots of folks of our own orientation. But come on, it's not like we're some kind of ethnic group or some-kind of ethnic group or somekind of ethnic group or some-thing. Even if we were the equiva-lent, anyone in a (post)modern industrialized culture whose en-tire existence is an obsession with their subculture to the exclusion

their subculture to the exclusion of anything else (or interaction with anyone else) is in serious need of getting a life.

Granted, we're at an awkward, adolescent stage of liberation: a fair amount of freedom here and there, with a ways to go, but mature enough that we have opportunities to make real lives for ourselves. Not all of the "culture" we developed as a group forced to developed as a group forced to exist underground really cuts it in the light of day. "Assimilation" is sometimes a release from the bur-den of rules that might have had meaning but might have just been the only game in town. Now that we are grown, we put away the things of a child. I mean, look at this contrarian

cry with alarm of Daniel Harris: "Camp is not going to disappear overnight, but I would say that it has already been profoundly eroded. I mean, how many people under 40 have even seen Mildred Pierce or All About Eve, or A Star is Born? Young gay men and women don't give a damn about the aspects of popular culture that used to bring gay men logether. used to bring gay men together, things like diva worship. That isn't a part of their lives anymore."

Oh, gee, golly darn – I feel such a blush of shame: here I am, over 40, and I couldn't give a rat's ass if I never hear another queen quote another line from those movies in a pouty semi-falsetto ever again. I will live my life with a great sense of relief if I never see ansense of relief if I never see an-other dyke at a formal event in an ill-fitting suit and tie (the few real butches who can carry this off with dash-ing aplomb, you're okay by me) instead of dressing like she wants to be taken se-ionaly. This riously. This goes double for the look at **Sapphistication**

us, aren't we so precious? rainbow touristwear bedecked couples who think dri-ving the moving van across the Bay Bridge meant they'd "come home," as they try to pass off the "We're from Kansas!" that hangs on them like a cheap suit as

I mean, I'd see previews or ads for Love! Valor! Compassion! and think, what the hell do eight guys think, what the hell do eight guys playing Sylphide have to do with anything except undermining the movie's goal of having us taken seriously by the rest of the population, and what does this have to do with my "culture" as a woman who gets starry-eyed for other women?

women:
Once again, it's individuality
on the group plan (a true contradiction in terms). The way this
works is that, rather than distinguish themselves as individuals and get a positive sense of self through accomplishing something or proving themselves in the world, some people decide it's easier to push a particular group to which they belong as deserving special attention. If the group gets some amount of recognition, or at least some show of deference or

respect, those who have presented themselves as prime examples of the group and exponents of its al-leged culture get to bask in re-flected glory and "be somebody," no matter whether they've done something to earn distinction or

And, even if stature for the And, even if stature for the group among other groups is not forthcoming, there's always the possibility of standing out among the group itself by playing "more [group affiliated] than thou" and bashing people with insufficient group identification and requisite "cultural" signifiers – the failure to live

fiers – the failure to live and look a group "identi-'to the max 24 hours a day. This game turns tragic when positive values and qualities are shunned, and counter-productive ones adopt-ed, simply on the grounds of

whether they

are appropri-ate to group "culture" or not. Ever since college, all my really bright black friends have said they'd had black friends have said they d had the experience of being accused of "acting white" because they were intellectually inclined and did well in school. Their accusers, in the name of group pride and ad-vancement, promoted an outlook that works out to be a collective death wish.

death wish.

In an era when people of different backgrounds are interacting more than ever, the cool people, the people who thrive, are those comfortable in many worlds — those whose group of origin nurtures and comforts them but does not define them but westrict. does not define them by restrict-ing them as individuals. That members of a group can be judged as individuals on their own merits, instead of being seen

own ments, instead of being seen as group members first, is a sign of success for the group.

And so, I don't worry about a gay culture "disappearing" as we all "assimilate" into the straight world. Let it seek its own level: the world. Let it seek its own level: the good and useful will survive; that which we've outgrown will become cherished history. It's called growing up. ▼

Oakland lesbian gets Ms. Foundation's 'Gloria' award

by Cynthia Laird

he Ms. Foundation for Women has announced that Rinku Sen, co-director of the Center for Third World Orgathe Center for Third World Orga-nizing in Oakland, received a "Gloria" award at the ninth annu-al Gloria Steinem Awards: A Na-tional Salute to Women of Vision, held last Thursday, May 29 in New York City York City.
Sen was chosen for her com-

Sen was chosen for her com-munity organizing on behalf of low-income women of color, and the example she sets as a leader. "Organizers are the energy cells of all social change. Rinku Sen brings humor, humanity, and practical solutions to the deepest social problems in this country," Steinem said.

Sen was presented the award by

Steinem said.

Sen was presented the award by writer and activist Alice Walker.

Sen joined the staff of the Center for Third World Organizing in 1988. In 1990, she was appointed co-director. She believes the center "but downs a the center "but downs are the control of the co ter "has done great work organiz-ing people of color to win positive changes in critical issues facing all of us, from poverty to immigra-tion, from education to police ac-

countability."

The Oakland center achieves this by training organizers in a mul-tiracial environment, and providing

lution-oriented campaigns across issue ideas and communities. Such opportunities, said Sen, "enable organizers to see themselves as a single community, involved in a ma-jority building project."

"It's an extreme honor to have

our organizing recognized as ex-cellent feminist work by the Ms. Foundation," Sen said. "The foun-dation supports so much coura-geous and victorious action by

geous and victorious action by regular women in every corner of the country. I'm thrilled to be a part of this grand legacy."

She has led the center in understanding women's relationships to all aspects of community life, and encouraging women's participation in progressive social-change movements.

"Rinku's work shows that often those with the least access to financial resources are those with

financial resources are those with great inner strength, and the most and what needs to be done to improve people's lives and communities," said Marie C. Wilson, foundation president.

The awards celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Ms. Founda-tion for Women. The awards were created to honor change-making leaders, grassroots activists who empower women and girls to gov-



Rinku Sen: "I'm thrilled to be a part of this grand legacy."



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20 years ago:

When we had to bear Anita Bryant

by David Bianco

Dade County, Florida, repealed its gay-rights ordinance June 7, 1977, setting off a string of other such repeals around the country

he decade after Stonewall was a heady time for the American gay and lesbian American gay and lesbian civil rights movement. Gays and lesbians were more visible than at any previous time in American history, and laws that penalized private same-sex behavior were repealed in many jurisdictions. In addition, more than 40 municipalities passed laws protecting citizens from discrimination on the izens from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Although conservative forces op-posed these changes from the start, the battle was not truly joined until 1977 and 1978, when a series of cities across the country voted on whether or not to keep such gay-rights laws on the books. The strategies used by both sides in these referendum campaigns helped set the boundaries and the tone for hundreds of future skirmishes over laws protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination.

The site of the first such popu-

lar vote on gay and lesbian rights was Dade County, Florida, whose non-discrimination ordinance drew the ire of orange juice spokesperson and former Miss America runner-up Anita Bryant. In January 1977, Bryant testified before the Dade County commission that a proposed gay-rights ordinance threatened "the rights of the overwhelming number of Dade County constituents." When her emotional testimony failed to sway the commission, she formed an organization, "Save Our Children," to

begin collecting the 10,000 signatures necessary to force a referendum on the June ballot. At first, many gays

and lesbians did not take Bryant's campaign seriously. But

when the 37-year-old singer's organization collected singer's organization collected more than 6 times the number of signatures necessary, gays and lesbians in South Florida and around the nation began organizing for the June election. Led by Jack Campbell, who owned a nationwide chain of gay bathouses, the Miami gay and lesbian community raised \$350,000 in contributions from around the country. Hundreds of gay bars stopped Hundreds of gay bars stopped serving orange juice, and dozens of volunteers flew to Miami to canvass neighborhoods and work the polls. An elaborate media strategy was developed, emphasizing broad themes of human rights and freedom.

But in the end, Bryant's mes-sage was more convincing: gays and lesbians were a threat to America's children, and any law that prevented employers from firing homosexuals increased the opportunities for a new generation of children to be recruited into the gay lifestyle. The expected opposition of traditionally liberal opposition of traditionally floeral constituencies such as blacks, Jews, and working-class voters did not materialize, and the ordinance was repealed on June 7 by 202,319



Singing a different tune: Anita Bryant's life has taken a decisive downhill turn since her 1977 Dade County victory.

to 83,319. Gays and lesbians in

South Florida were devastated.

But the war had just begun.
Bryant, thrust into the limelight by the Dade County battle, began a nationwide tour of cities which

had passed gay-rights legisla-tion. Organizations similar to "Save Our Children" formed in many municipal-ities to fight the gains of the gay and lesbian movement.

The spring of 1978

was a particularly
difficult time for gay
and lesbian rights. In
April, St. Paul, Minnesota, the capital of a tradition-

nesota, the capital of a fractitionally liberal state, repealed its gay rights law by a nearly two-thirds popular vote. The next month, Wichita repealed its gay-rights protections by almost five-to-one. Within weeks, gay rights were also repealed overwhelmingly in another liberal haven: Eugene, Ore-

Past Out

In each city, national forces on both sides sent money and per-sonnel, but the defeat of gay rights was ultimately based on a simple was utilinately based on a sinple message to local voters: gay rights are bad for your children. For ex-ample, the anti-gay forces in Eu-gene included the following line in their literature: "Other areas adopting pro-homosexual legisla-tion have observed an increase in V.D., public indecency, and boy prostitution. Vote YES to protect your family, job, and community."

The momentum against gay-rights laws finally hit a firewall in the fall of 1978 when two anti-gay measures were defeated on the West Coast: California's Briggs Initiative, and Seattle's Initiative 13. The Briggs Initiative outlawed gay and even pro-gay teachers from teaching in public schools,

and Initiative 13 threatened to repeal Seattle's non-discrimination law. Each measure lost because of specific, local reasons, but the overall effect was to stall the movement against local gay-rights laws. In California, while early laws. In California, while early polls showed the Briggs Initiative with a comfortable lead, a concerted campaign by gays and straights throughout the state combined with a late endorsement of the "no" position by California's most prominent conservative, Ronald Reagan. In the case of Seattle, a strong emphasis on the value of the "right to privacy" for gays and straights alike worked in concert with the negative publicity for the initiative's backers when one of the police officers who initiated the measure killed a black youth while on duty.

killed a black youth while on duty. The widespread publicity over these anti-gay initiatives caused the issue of non-discrimination to be the first public battle over homosexuality in the post-Stonewall era - which perhaps explains why "gay rights" and "non-discrimina-tion laws" have become virtually synonymous in America's lexicon. Even though the two decades since Bryant's first battle have been wrought with controversy over AIDS funding, the military, mar-riage, and adoption, the assumphage, and adoption, the assumption that gay equality means simply adding or keeping "sexual orientation" as a protected category along with "race," "sex," and "religion" has been quite resilient. ▼

David Bianco, M.A., is the author of Modern Jewish History for Everyone. He can be reached care of this publication or through his E-mail address: AriBianco@aol.com.

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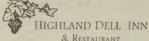
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Gay youth suicide statistics challenged

by Don Romesburg, GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

recent widely reprinted Newhouse News Service ar-ticle by Delia M. Rios dis-misses the oft-repeated statistics that lesbian and gay adolescents are 2-3 times more likely to com-mit suicide than their heterosexual peers, and that 30 percent of teen suicides are by gay and lesbian youth.

"There is no scientifically valid evidence that it's true," Rios states, citing a 1994 report by representatives from the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the American Psychological Association, the American Association ciation, the American Association of Suicidology, and several gay and lesbian health groups. The statistics in question, which appeared originally in a 1989 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) report on youth suicide, has "propelled into public consultations." pelled into public con-

pelled into public con-sciousness ... a link be-tween gay teens and suicide," she writes, adding that the figure "has shaped public per-ceptions of gay teens as emotionally vulnera-ble and as victims of

an oppressive larger culture who require society's in

culture who require society's in-tervention ... it has become con-ventional wisdom with the power to influence public policy." Rios cites Peter Muehrer, chief of the Youth Mental Health pro-gram of NIMH, who asserts that "no scientific evidence" supports the DHHS report's figures. As fur-ther problems with the data he ther problems with the data, he says, many studies on linkages be-tween gay youth and suicide are based on interviews with gay and lesbian adults in the early 1970s, asking them to recount their adolescent experiences, and "re-searchers have largely confined their work to ... gay teens in run-away shelters and counseling centers." Rios says, "These are teens already in crisis and who may be more predisposed to suicide."

The article ran in the Seattle Times, Cleveland's Plain Dealer and MSNBC among other places, within the last two weeks. While challenging statistics is a valid and important seasons of fournelisms. important aspect of journalism, Rios fails to mention any of the more recent studies which have indicated that lesbian, gay, bisexu-al, and transgender youth are at a higher risk to attempt suicide than heterosexual teens. Her em-phasis that the 1989 report has influenced public policy, coupled with her claim that the high rate is a "myth," seems to throw into question the validity of public policy protecting gay youth from discrimination and harassment as well as public programs providing specific crisis support and gay-sensitive counseling to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender

gay, bisexual and transgender youth. It never addresses the fact that such programs need to exist regardless of specific numbers.

Please let Newhouse News Service, the Seattle Times, the Plain Dealer and MSNBC know that to simply dismiss the 1989 report figures without giving the bigger picture does a disservice to everyone and only confuses a hot button issue, placing at-risk youth in

tion.
Contact: Debrah Howell, Bu-Contact: Debrah Howell, Bureau Chief, Newshouse News Service, 1101 Connecticut Ave. NW, #300, Washington, DC 20036, fax: 202.296.9537; Alex MacLeod, Managing Editor, Seattle Times, P0 Box 70, Seattle, WA 98111, fax: 206.382.6760; David Hall, Editor, Brain Pooley, 1901 Superior. tor, *Plain Dealer*; 1801 Superior Ave., NE, Cleveland, 0H 44114-2192; fax: 216.999.6354; Mark Harrington, Vice President, MSNBC, 2200 Fletcher Avenue, Fort Lee, NJ 07024, fax: 201.583.5512, e-mail: opin-

Gay youth suicide more than a numbers game for **Ann Landers**

The May 25 Ann Landers column featured a letter by "Hampton, Va.," who was a 15-year-old

gay teenager considering killing himself. "I feel so alone. I am scared," he wrote.

I am scared," he wrote.
"The problem is I am
absolutely certain I am
gay. I have always
wanted to get married
and have children, but
now I know that lifelong dream is impossible. I have pobody. sible. ... I have nobody to talk to, and I need your advice more than

anything. Please, Ann, help me. I can't go on this way

GLAAD

much longer."

Ann Landers responded definitively and positively: "You are not alone. According to some studies, an estimated ten percent of individuals worldwide are homosexual. ... Homosexuals are born, not made. You need counseling to help you accept yourself as you are. Your favorite teacher, school counselor or family doctor should be able to recommend someone who can help you." She also gives the contact information for the National Youth Advocacy Coalition, which is a national organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth. Please let Ann Landers know

that her affirmation of the gay youth is appreciated. Contact: Ann Landers, c/o

Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., #700, Los Angeles, CA 90045-5600.

Arkansas newspaper tells half the story

The Morning News of Northwestern Arkansas published a story on June 3 that read like a scare story from the 1950s: "Homosexuals are becoming a prob-lem at Beaver Lake, and Benton County Sheriff Andy Lee said he needs more deputies to deal with [it.]" The story went on to quote Sheriff Lee as stating, "Where you have homosexuals, you also have pedophiles," and that "any large crowd will have some undesirable people in it."

First it should be noted that the idea that pedophilia and ho-mosexuality are linked is patently untrue, and has been disproved by a number of studies; it is a hurtful lie used by small-minded bigots to hurt the lesbian and gay community by creating a climate of fear; also the characterizations by Sheriff Lee of gay men as "un-desirable" is a shameful one, based on bias and prejudice. Secondly, no representative of a lesbian and gay organization was included in the story to counter Lee's asser-tions, thereby letting his com-

ments stand unchallenged.

The Morning News was contacted by GLAAD, who spoke to tacted by GLAAD, who spoke to Rusty Turner, their managing editor. He characterized the sheriff's comments as "out of line" and "incorrect," and said that the paper welcomed letters regarding the article. GLAAD discussed with Turner the need for balanced reporting; simply letting Lee's comments stand on their own without discussing their bias and lack of veracity is defamatory to lesbians and gay men, as well as making it appear that the newspaper supports Lee's homophobia, which Turner assured GLAAD they do not. they do not.

Let *The Morning News* know that it's simply not enough to reproduce Sheriff Lee's comments; that fair and accurate media repthat fair and accurate media representation means countering bias and homophobia when reporting on stories that concern the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community by exposing the lies told about us. Use this as a opportunity to educate them about how important it is to tell both sides of the story when it comes to our lives.

comes to our lives.
Contact: Jim Morris, Executive Editor, *The Morning News*,
P. O. Box 7, Springdale, AK
73764; fax 501-751-6209; Web site: http://www.mornews.com/opinion/letter.html.

AP takes a 'self-described' step back in time

step back in time
A recent Associated Press report by Dick Pettys used unnecessary and archaic terminology to
describe Michael Hardwick, a gay man at the center of arguably one of the most controversial legal battles for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. The June and transgender rights. The Jule 5 story reported on the recent revelation that Mike Bowers, the former Georgia Attorney General who successful defended the state's anti-sodomy law in front of state's anti-sodomy law in front of the Supreme Court, had admitted to a more than decade-long extra-marital affair. The story casually described Hardwick, the man ac-cused of violating the sodomy law, as "a self-described practicing homosexual."

While discussion of the details of the legal case Rowers v. Hard-

of the legal case Bowers v. Hard-wick would warrant the mention that Hardwick was indeed having same-sex relations, the AP story uses the information in a peculiar and unnecessary context. "Openly gay man," would have been a perfectly acceptable term. "Self-described" mocks Hardwick's courage as someone who stood

up for the community.

Please tell the Associated Press
that Pettys used tired, archaic language that does a huge disservice to all its readers.

Contact: Darrell L. Christian,

Managing Editor, Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10020-1666, fax: 212.621.7520, e-mail: rgersh@ap.org.▼

Contact GLAAD by e-mail at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244. Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334).

Statewide anti-smoking campaign aimed at gays

by Dennis Conkin

everal California regional lesbian and gay newspapers, and one cutting edge youthoriented magazine, will participate in an unprecedented antismoking campaign through the gay press.

gay press.

"Pride Is Not For Sale," a project of California Lavender Smokefree Project, kicks off this month to coincide with Lesbian and Gay Pride celebrations in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

The campaign – the first of its kind in the country – will last 18 months, using both print ads and television public service announcements to raise awareness about tobacco use and the cigarette industry's practice of targeting minority communities and youth.

The ads will appear in regional gay publications including the Bay Area Reporter, Southern California's Lesbian News, and the Gay and Lesbian Times. XY, a magazine for gay males in their teens and early twenties, will also participate in the campaien.

cLSP program director Grier McGurdy said the goal of the campaign is to start "a healthy dialogue" about tobacco use and industry sponsorship of events in the lesbian and gay community.

CLSP will also highlight the campaign with booths at Pride Day celebrations in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego, McGurdy said. The booths will feature the TV

The booths will feature the TV public service message and a new campaign brochure, as well as giveaways such as water bottles and special matchbooks that contain information about local lesbian and gay stop smoking classes and programs.

Tobacco companies began targeting the lesbian and gay community in 1991 with a Benson and Hedges ad in *Genre* magazine. Since then, ads have appeared in national magazines such as *The Advocate* and *Out*, and the tobacco industry has begun to sponsor community events.

Last year, the Folsom Street Fair was sponsored by Lucky Strike, and this year's Christopher Street West Celebration in Los Angeles is sponsored by Benson and Hedges

and Hedges.

Tobacco companies are also starting to provide funding and contributions to AIDS organizations, McGurdy said. Although CLSP is "not saying that groups should refuse the money," she said there needs to be community dialogue about whether such funds are appropriate.

Groups such as the American Cancer Society and the American Lung Association refuse such funding.

"Recent research indicates

"Recent research indicates that between 35 to 50 percent of adult gay men and 30 to 40 percent of adult lesbians smoke," according to Jim Key, the director of communications for the LA Gay and Lesbian Community Center. "These numbers are especially alarming considering that smoking rates among heterosexual adults are considerably lower."

CLSP is a three-year-old group started by Community Focus, a nonprofit community problem-solving group made up of resource teams representing San Francisco, San Diego, and Los Angeles. The group also focuses on air quality and recycling as community health and environmental issues.

Its innovative projects have included smoke-free nights in bars and a campaign of distributing matchbooks containing information about stop smoking classes, and the impact of smoking on people with HIV, throughout gay bars and other venues.

The ad campaign is funded by Proposition 99, the California Tobacco Tax Initiative. ▼

For more information about CLSP, call Community Focus at 956-1811.



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Boxer gets \$50,000 at ANGLE brunch

by Karen Ocamb

hey're after me," U.S. Senahey're after me," U.S. Sena-tor Barbara Boxer said of her conservative foes last Sunday, as she spoke to a group of gay and lesbian supporters at a private Hollywood Hills home. "But it's a tremendous honor to do what I do."

do what I do."
To support what Victory Fund
co-founder Scott Hitt described as
Boxer's "courageous" efforts on
behalf of women, gays, and people
with AIDS, the group at the June
8 fundraiser, sponsored by Access
Now for Gay & Lesbian Equality
(ANGLE), contributed \$50,000 to
the senator's 1998 re-election the senator's 1998 re-election campaign. Boxer said the early money is sorely needed in a race that will probably cost her \$20 million, while two of her potential candidates could easily outspend her with their own money.

Boxer's most anticipated op-ponent is right-leaning California Congressman Sonny Bono, who is a successful fundraiser and sur-

a successful fundraiser and sur-prisingly well-liked in conserva-tive Republican circles. Boxer, a staunch liberal pro-choice and gay rights advocate who wants a balanced budget



Senator Barbara Boxer

get of the right wing even before her arduous 1992 victory over ultra-conservative Bruce Herschensohn. Since then, she has been regularly vilified by Rush Limbaugh and Operation Rescue's Randell Terry on their radio talks shows. But, Boxer says, "I don't get intimidated easily. ... I wear [the target like a badge of honor."

As an indication of how far Congress has moved to the right, Boxer noted that conservative Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) "is sturning out to be a moderate" with whom she has developed a respectful working relationship. Additionally, she and Florida Republican Connie Mack are working together to create a bill that would double funding for the Na-tional Institutes of Health. Right now, she says, for every

Night how, she says, tol every four grants that are accepted, the NIH can only afford to fund one. The bipartisan bill would place all advocacy funding, including money for AIDS and cancer, "under one tent."

And though the Pentagon recently agreed to investigate charges of witchhunts against gays and lesbians in the military and she thinks the "don't ask, and she thinks the don't ask, don't tell" compromise "is outrageous and has to be revisited," Boxer is "very gloomy about the whole issue" in the current political climate. ▼

For more information on the Boxer campaign, call (310) 575-9880.

Poll shows gay equality strides in California

by Rene Astudillo

recent statewide opinion survey conducted by San Francisco-based Field Insti-tute shows that California voters are sharply divided over major gay and lesbian issues, ranging from homosexual relations to a ban on same-sex marriages. There is, however, a significant shift in public opinion over the last two decades regarding granting child custody rights to gay and lesbian

The same survey also indicates that one in five Californians knows someone close to them who has either tested positive for HIV or has been diagnosed with AIDS, and one in seven knows someone close to them who has died from complications associat-

ed with AIDS.

The Field Institute is a nonpartisan research organization supported by business, academic institutions, and communications media for the purpose of con-ducting public opinion research on a variety of social, economic, and political issues. This telephone survey among a represen-tative statewide sample of 1,045 adult Californians was conducted February 11-17 of this year. Inter-views were conducted in English and Spanish. Percentages based on the total sample have a sam-pling error of plus or minus 3.3% and a confidence level of 95%. Percentages based on sub-groups have a larger sampling tolerance.

Highlights of the survey:

Almost one half (45%) believe that homosexual relations are wrong (40% saying always wrong,

and 5% almost always wrong). About the same percentage (47%) have an opposite view (38% feel that homosexual relations are not at all wrong, and another 9% feel

they are sometimes wrong).
Californians are divided over the pace of the gay rights agenda, with 41% reporting that gay rights leaders are pushing too fast, while 39% perceive the pace as about right.

about right.

A majority (56%) of the California public disapproves of allowing two people of the same sex to marry and have regular marriage laws apply to them. The proportion who approve of same-sex marriages (38%) has increased over the past 20 years. Nearly half (49%) of Californians would favor a state law barring recognition of (49%) of Californians would tavor a state law barring recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states. Legal recognition of family rights for domestic partners is favored by a large majority (67%) of Californians. A smaller majority (59%) also favors the extension of financial aid status to

domestic partners.
Nearly seven in ten (69%) Cal-Nearly seven in ten (69%) Catifornians now favor granting child custody rights to a gay or lesbian parent if the courts find him or her fit to care for the child in all other ways. This marks a significant shift in public opinion over the last two decades.

Identification with the gay community

Most California adults (67%) report having no personal identi-fication with the gay and lesbian community. *The California Opin-ion Index*, which reported on the survey results, notes that it is difficult in general public opinion surveys such as this one to obtain accurate measures as to whether a respondent is heterosexual, gay, lesbian, or bisexual.

"Typically, a straightforward question about the respondent's sexual orientation produces statistics which appear to understate the true incidence of homosexuals within the population," the *Index* observed.

The footnote adds that a "surrogate measure often used in sur-veys is to ask respondents to describe how much they personally identify with the gay or lesbian community - a lot, some, or not at all. That portion which attests to a high degree of identification usually includes a large propor-tion of homosexuals."

Needles exchange programs favored

Six in ten adults (60%) favor Six in ten adults (60%) favor needles exchange programs designed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Most sub-groups favor the programs, with the strongest support coming from Californians under the age of 30 (66%), those with post-graduate education (79%), Democrats (65%), whites (65%), and people with at least some identification with the gay/lesbian community

with at least some identification with the gay/lesbian community (66% to 69%).

Opinion is more divided among those who identify with the GOP (52% to 43%), Latinos (51% to 46%), Catholics (51% to 45%), people 60 or older (47% to 43%), and blacks (48% to 48%). ▼

For detailed information about the survey, contact The Field Institute, 550 Kearny Street, Suite 900, San Francisco, CA

Assembly tally: We won two, lost four

by Marghe Covino

ssembly Bill 1059, authored by Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), is the first of its kind. The bill, which passed the Assembly, allows small employers the option of providing domestic partners health coverage benefits to em-

Also passed was AB 257, authored by Antonio Villaraigosa (D-Los Angeles), which adds sexual orientation to California's Fair Employment and Housing Act. Scott Wildman (D-San Fernando), a freshman Assembly-member, was targeted by the

lobbying group started by Howard Ahmanson and State Senator Rob Hurtt. The Institute identified Wildman as a decisive identified Wildman as a decisive vote and rallied conservative churches in his district to publicly demand that he oppose the gay measures. Wildman abstained from voting on AB 101 but voted for AB 257, which was approved only by the minimum of 41 votes. Also targeted was Mike Machado (D-Linden), who also took a rags on AB 101 but in also took a pass on AB 101 but in spite of accusations of reneging by Lou Sheldon of the Tradition al Values Coalition, cast the 41st and deciding vote for AB 257 in

the final round of balloting.
In addition to the defeat of AB 101, AB 492 (which would have lengthened the filing time from 30 days to one year for workplace discrimination cases based upon sexual orientation) was defeated on the Assembly floor. Both AB 53 and AB 54 by Roof. Both AB 33 and AB 34 by Kevin Murray were sent to the inactive file. AB 53 would have allowed unmarried couples to adopt. AB 54 would have provid-ed a statewide domestic partners

registry.

The gay and lesbian commu nity throughout the state will be asked for their help throughout the summer to urge the Governor to sign the bills.

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AB 101 defeated in Sacramento

by Marghe Covino

t was 11 hours into the session, nearly midnight on Tuesday, June 3, when Assembly Speaker Pro Tem Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) rose to seek passage of the bill that would ban discrimination because of sexual orientation in California's public schools. Kuehl later described the hush that fell over the usually noisy chamber and the ensuing debate as "enormously uplifting." t was 11 hours into the session.

as "enormously uplifting."
"You could have heard a pin

drop," she said.

The bill received 36 votes, well short of the 41 votes needed to pass. Although disappointed, Kuehl seemed philosophical about its defeat. "There were so many serious and passionate statements on our behalf, I don't

statements on our behalt, I don't want that to be lost. People were struggling with it. For the most part they were respectful – it was emotional, painful."

Seven Democrats either voted against the bill or abstained from voting. Kuehl said that Lou Sheldon's Traditional Values Coalition targeted Scott Wildman (D-San Fernando), who is from a conservative, traditionally Republican district, and Mike Machado (D-

San Joaquin), organizing church groups to flood their phones and faxes and picket in their home districts to pressure them to vote no on the gay bills.

Kuehl acknowledged that she told some members to "lay off."

"I told them not to vote for a bill that care down and then how?

"I told them not to vote for a bill that goes down and then have to take the heat for it anyway," she said. "I told them don't vote to no purpose, there's no reason for that, you lay off, and if I get the 41st vote, then come on." However, she spoke highly of Jack Scott (D-Altadena), saying, "He took heat, spoke about it.

Jack Scott (D-Altadena), saying,
"He took heat, spoke about it,
and showed great courage."

One legislator, Peter Frusetta
(R-Tres Pinos), distinguished
himself by making a long, rambling statement about homosexual behavior in cattle [see sidebar], leading a usually apolitical
columnist in the Sacramento Bee
to label him "Peter Frusetta P. to label him "Peter Frusetta R-14th Century."

14th Century."
The executive director of LIFE Lobby, Laurie McBride, told the B.A.R., "While the debate brought out many eloquent statements from supporters of the bill, it also brought out some of the most cruel, misguided statements. I've ever beard mode. statements I've ever heard made about our community." McBride

was referring to the disjointed monologue by Frusetta and statements by Bernie Richter (R-Chico), who spoke of "the shortened life-span of homosexuals," due to HIV and AIDS.

One freshman Democrat, Carl Washington of Compton, came in for some criticism from Kuehl. "He's in a safe district, he didn't have to vote against the bill," Kuehl said, "but he went out of his way to tell me, 'I've been preaching against homosexuality for 14 years, and I'm not going to for 14 years, and I'm not going to stop now." Washington is an or-dained minister and also played dained minister and also played a key role in defeating other gay measures, saying, "Homosexuali-ty is a straightforward moral issue to me."

Assembly Speaker Cruz Bus-

Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante issued a statement through his spokesperson Ron Gray, saying, "When it became clear that AB 101 was going to come up short, I abstained so that defeat could not be laid at the feet of any new Democratic Assembly members from conserting of the conser vative districts who are still developing positions on issues which affect the gay and lesbian

community."

Kuehl said she will reintroduce the bill in 1999. ▼

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Assemblymember makes mooving speech about lesbian cows on Assembly floor

by Marghe Covino

awmaker and rancher Peter awmaker and rancher Peter Frusetta (R-Tres Pinos) delivered a rambling monologue which purported to address the issues of AB 101, which would add the words "sexual orientation" to the non-discrimination classifications in state schools. The following is the text of those remarks:
"Well, I've seen thousands and

well, I ve seen thousands and thousands of cattle, I have to go back to my background, and in these thousands of cattle, I've been very observant. In my life-time, I've probably seen three and maybe at the top, four who

that ... had the hormonal imbalance of being odd ... unnatural. We call the heifers 'morphodites' or we have another name for them, but they're rare, but they do occur. It must be some hordo occur. It must be some hor-monal imbalance in these heifers that make them shy away from bulls and take up with other heifers and act just like a bull would. Yet, she's a heifer ... has the physical anatomy of a heifer, yet, will mount another heifer when that other heifer is in heat and acts just like a bull. But they're rare. And it's a very un-natural thing.

matural thing.

"The cowboys in their long days on the range will get a joke out of it because it's so odd. I re-

ally believe that we're going down a very dangerous path here. Over the years, we have all become more tolerant. I remember when to live ... cohabitate with a woman, man and woman, shacking up, as they say, was something that wasn't mentioned. Wasn't mentioned because it was some-thing that we didn't want to ac-cept as reality. And as you know, today our mores in our societies, in our community have change [sic] a lot. This, for example, is now accepted and some places commonplace. And where has this path led us? It's led us to the disintegration of many of our other moral values in regards to

page 27

with..



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'Licking the Knife' is a first

Femme conference this Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

rganizers of "Licking the Knife: Exploring the Edges of Femme Gender," which takes place in San Francisco this Sunday, June 15, say it will be a unique event that will explore an underrepresented minority of the queer community. Mochi Abrahams, one of the women behind the idea, said this will be the first-

ever full-scale femme conference.
She said the intent of the con-She said the intent of the conference is to "explode restrictive myths while celebrating femme courage, beauty, and power." It is also hoped the event will begin to bridge the gaps between many of the more isolated subcultures, including older and transgender. cluding older and transgender

We want to bring transgender lesbians and bi femmes in, too,'

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Abrahams told the B.A.R., emphasizing that people of all genders are welcome.
"And that includes gay men

who are femme.

Abrahams and Elizabeth Stark, both of F.A.N.G. Productions, set about planning the conference six months ago with a core commit-tee of people interested in femme issues. It is being held in conjunction with the Harvey Milk Insti-

Gender as light

Abrahams and Stark view gen-Advanams and Stark view gender as being a light spectrum, not a taut line between polar opposites, such as masculinity and femininity.

"As femmes, we have a strong and the observed, "Abrahams said.
"Our commitment is to the power

of perspective.
"As concepts of gender blossom into a complex matrix, we want to bring femmes together to revitalize gender's usefulness as a coalitional politic, not a site of regulation."

Sunday's conference will fea-Sunday's conference will rea-ture a number of presenters, in-cluding renowned poet Jewelle Gomez, director of San Francisco State University's Poetry Center and archives, who will deliver the keynote address.

dyke club, revealing the gamut of femmes and femme fashion.

Stark said that the forthcoming conference had a small foundation on which to build. An-thologies such as Joan Nestle's The Persistent Desire: A Femme-Butch Reader, and Lesléa Newman's The Femme Mystique, as well as other personal accounts, have created a framework for exploring femme

But the conference isn't the



Conference organizers Mochi Abrahams (left) and Elizabeth Stark

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A morning panel discussion, "Femme Visibility and Gender," will feature author and scholar Susan Stryker, Mary Midgett, and

The afternoon panel, "Femme Sexuality and Power," will feature Maria Jiminez, Martha Equinox, and Shar

Throughout the day there will

be smaller, interactive workshops on a range of topics celebrating femme diversity, Abrahams said. The finale will be a non-tradi-tional, broadly inclusive "anti-fashion" show, entitled "Tranmogrification: An Iron Fist in a Velvet Glove," featuring attire for var-

only femme-centered event. Abrahams said they're also having a femme show at Luna Sea from Friday, June 20 through Sunday, June 22. ▼

'Licking the Knife' will be held at the Victoria Street Theater, 2961 16th Street, at Capp. The conference runs from 10 a.m. until after 7 p.m. Child care is available with advance notice; the site is scent-free and accessible. There is a sliding scale donation of \$10-25. To register or for more info, call (415) 552-7200.

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Thanks a brunch: Stop AIDS honors heroes

by Dennis Conkin

he Stop AIDS Project will kick off Pride Week '97 by honoring several gay men and a lesbian supervisor at its sec-ond annual San Francisco HIV ond annual San Francisco HIV
Prevention Awards ceremony next
Sunday, June 22. The awards will
be given at a lavish 11 a.m. brunch
at the Merchants Exchange Building Grand Ballroom, located at
465 California Street, 15th Floor.
The recipients of the annual
awards are nominated based upon

their contributions in the fight against AIDS, and are selected by

a jury of their peers.

This year Al Baum, Jr., and Matthew Denckla will receive the Matthew Denckla will receive the Sam B. Puckett awards; R. Steve Lew is to be honored with the Chuck Frutchey Board of Directors Award; and Supervisor Leslie Katz will receive an award in recognition of her efforts to get the city to fund condom distribution in local bars and gave pures.

tion in local bars and gay venues. Baum, a practicing psy-chotherapist, is well-known for his philanthropic efforts in the lesbian and gay community, and has been active in AIDS preven-tion efforts since the beginning of the epidemic. He sits on a variety the epidemic. He sits on a variety of boards of directors, including the Lambda Lesbian and Gay Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Gay and Lesbian Community Center, and Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center

Denckla, originally a three-year volunteer with Stop AIDS Project but now a staffer, is "a moderator, visionary, and driving moderator, visionary, and driving

Project but now a staffer, is "a moderator, visionary, and driving force" behind community forums. He has organized speakouts on such topics as speed use and oral sex; sex clubs and bathhouses; and the impact of new AIDS treatments on safe sex.

Lew is the director of research and training for the Acins and Park.

and training for the Asian and Pa-cific Islander Wellness Center. Lew has also been affiliated with the Living Well Project, the GAPA Community HIV Project, the Mission Cultural Center, and the



Alvin H. Baum Jr., winner of the Sam B. Puckett Award

Presidential AIDS Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. "With the annual San Francis-co HIV Prevention Awards, we recognize the determination, compassion, leadership, and wis-



SAP's Matthew R. Denckla

dom of the men and women of San Francisco who have contributed to this fight," said Timo-

thy Leifield, the agency's director.
Established in 1984, part of
Stop AIDS Project's mission is to Stop AIDS Project's mission is to start conversations among gay and bisexual men that in the end reduce HIV transmission." The agency is nationally renowned as a pioneering model for HIV prevention activities. Now with an annual estimated budget of \$1 million, according to media spokesperson David Boyer, the agency provides AIDS prevention to more than 10,000 gay men a year through a combination of street-based outreach, peer group meetings, and other innovative approaches to HIV risk reduction. Tickets to the brunch, which includes live entertainment and

Tickets to the brunch, which includes live entertainment and awards presentations, range from \$75 to \$125. The event is sponsored by Chevron Corporation, Geffen Foundation, Wells Fargo, Gap Foundation, Herth Real Estate, PG&E, and Heller, Ehrman White and McAulifee.

For more information about the Project or to order tickets, call (415) 621-7177.

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Wellness Center moves toward 'neighborhoodbased' goal

by Rene Astudillo

he Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center (APIWC) – formerly the Asian AIDS Project and Living Well Project – has moved into a new single loca-tion at 730 Polk Street in the Tenderloin. Since the two organiza-tions announced the merger last

tions announced the merger last year, staff and volunteer services had remained housed in two separate offices along Market Street.
Currently, APIWC is the largest community-based organization in the U.S., providing HIV prevention and client services to Asian & Pacific Islander communities. It now has a staff of 45 and dozens

of volunteers and peer leaders. Speaking about the new office location, APIWC executive direc-tor John Manzon-Santos said that the Tenderloin "is where many of the Tenderloin "is where many of our isolated, hard-to-reach clients live. Our goal is to be not only community-based, but neighborhood-based." He added that APIWC is also looking forward to strengthening its ties with Project Open Hand and the San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH). Project Open Hand owns the building at 730 Polk Street, while SFGH has plans to open a new Tenderloin clinic in the same building. There are more than 500 cases

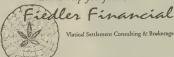
There are more than 500 cases of AIDS among Asians and Pacific Islanders in the city and county

of San Francisco, while hundreds more are known or suspected to be HIV-infected. APIWC seeks to provide a more comprehensive and coordinated HIV/AIDS eduand to continue to empower, assist, and enhance the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS in the API communities.

For more information, contact the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center at 730 Polk Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco CA 94109 Phone: (415) 292-3400 Fax: (415) 292-3404 TTY: (415) 292-3410 website: www.apiwellness.org

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First AIDS wine ride next Sat. in Sonoma

Board vows to keep costs low

by Cynthia Laird

f pedaling around Sonoma County's scenic valleys while raising money for a good cause sounds like fun, you still have time to sign up for the first Wine Ride for AIDS, which the Sonoma Ride for AIDS, which the Sonoma County AIDS Foundation is sponsoring next Saturday, June 21. For a modest registration fee and pledge contribution, the foundation hopes to attract enough participants to make the 100K bike ride an annual event.

The Sonoma County AIDS

The Sonoma County AIDS Foundation provides grants to nearly 20 HIV/AIDS service and prevention agencies in the area. Wine Ride proceeds will go toward that fund; a percentage will also go into the foundation's en-dowment fund, said John Voyles,

president.
"The endowment fund is a permanent fund, and we're not going to touch it until it has \$100,000," Voyles added. The foundation's board of directors decided nearly two years ago to establish the endowment fund as part of its long-term strategic

plan.
Unlike the California AIDS
Ride, in which last year 39 percent
of the money raised went to administrative, marketing, and rider support costs, the Sonoma Coun-ty AIDS Foundation board of directors was determined to keep overhead costs to a minimum for

the Wine Ride.

"We're trying to keep costs down, and will only use the \$35 per person registration fee for costs," Voyles told the B.A.R. "The board was pretty adamant about that. We're really conscious of the

"I'm very cognizant of the whole Pallotta affair on the East Coast," he added, referring to AIDS Ride producer Dan Pallot-ta's recent troubles involving this year's event in Florida and last year's rides in Florida and Philadelphia. [See related story, next page.]

Beautiful valleys

The Wine Ride promises to be scenic: the 62.5 mile route will start at an area campground and circle the Alexander, Dry Creek, and Russian River valleys.

"It's a nice ride," said Voyles, who added that riders don't have to raise as much money as in the

to raise as much money as in the

Pallotta-run events.
Wine Ride participants must each raise a minimum of \$250 in addition to paying the registration fee. That \$35 includes a Friday tee. I hat \$35 includes a Friday night stay at the KOA Campground, which is optional, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, a Tshirt and patch, Voyles said. Some companies have put teams of riders together, he said, and others can also do that.

Toni Turke at the foundation said the ride is both adventuresome and easy, so that riders can

concentrate on the "real challenge, raising critically needed funds from family, friends, and co-

Organizers also encourage HIV-positive persons and persons living with AIDS to take part in the ride.

Anyone who feels 100K is too much can choose to ride the shorter 50K route.

Community support

Compared with San Francis-co, funds for HIV/AIDS services and prevention are not as avail-

able in Sonoma County, where most, if not all, of the organizations have only two sources of funding: government agencies and private philanthropy. The foundation said government dol-lars have declined significantly over the past several years, while over the past several years, while AIDS diagnoses have increased. As of July 1996, there were over 1,800 diagnosed AIDS cases in the county. Voyles said that the foundation

holds three events annually to raise money, including the popu-lar "Friends of the Oscars" gala

that benefits Face to Face, Food for Thought, Henry House, and

for Thought, Henry House, and the 15 other agencies. It was in the spirit of commu-nity giving that the foundation created Wine Ride for AIDS. "It's for Sonoma County, and the funds stay in Sonoma County," Voyles said. ▼

The Wine Ride starts at 7:30 a.m. To register, or for more information, call ride coordinator Roger Reed at (707) 544-1215.

AIDS Ride ends, SFAF expects more money than last year

by Cynthia Laird

he California AIDS Ride 4 Presented by Tanqueray ended last Saturday, June 7, when 2,476 exhausted but proud riders rolled into Los Angeles. De-

the rides in other parts of the country, preliminary figures show the San Francisco-to-Los Angeles the San Francisco-to-Los Angeles trip was again successful and raised \$9.4 million, said Derek Gordon with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF).

That figure is over \$1 million more than last year's event, which raised a total of \$8.1 million, Gordon said. He also said that like last year's ride, the money will be split between the SFAF and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center after administrative, marketing, and administrative, marketing, and rider support costs are deducted. Last year those figures were 22 percent for administration and marketing, and 17 percent for rider support services.

Administrative and marketing

costs cover the producer fees paid to Pallotta TeamWorks, the run-ning of AIDS Ride offices, and marketing expenses such as rider recruitment. Rider support costs cover expenses related to the week-long ride, including showers, food, water, medical care, and safety monitors.

During the ride, a camp is set

up at the end of each day that is like a small town, with food, showers, and tents provided for nearly 3,000 riders and volun-

Pallotta TeamWorks has come Pallotta TeamWorks has come under fire from AIDS activists re-cently, surrounding the less-than-successful AIDS Ride in Florida this year and last year's events in Florida and Philadelphia. In Florida, about 82 percent of the funds raised had to cover administrative costs; in Philadelphia, AIDS orga-nizations received less money than they expected. [See related

That has not been the case in California, where producer Dan Pallotta has produced a more successful event each year. This was the fourth annual ride, and the third one that SFAF has been involved with, said Pat Christen, SFAF's executive director. Gordon said that final figures

from the just-concluded AIDS Ride won't be available for another 90 days, after a final accounting is completed. "We've had an extraordinarily

successful year," Gordon told the

The income generated from

the three last AIDS Ride events has accounted for a dramatic increase in SFAF's annual budget.

Christen and Lance Henderson, deputy director of finance, went on last week's 525-mile ride, along with Gordon. Christen and Henderson said they were not paid by the foundation during the week. They have gone on all the rides since SFAF became a benefi-

More bike techs

On June 2, when they stopped in King City after riding 110 miles from Santa Cruz, Christen and Henderson called the *B.A.R.* They Henderson called the B.A.R. Iney were asked what improvements could be made on the ride, or if they saw things that could be done less expensively. Using the 17 percent figure for rider support that was spent last year, Pallotta TeamWorks spent about \$130 per day per rider.

At that time, neither Christen nor Henderson could find any-thing about the ride that could be e more cheaply or efficiently. The tents aren't luxurious,

they are simple nylon tents. Each year at the end, the tents are cleaned and reused," Henderson

After the ride was completed, however, Christen said that one improvement for next year's event would be to have more bike technicians on hand at the end of the ide to help the riders break down their bicycles.

their bicycles.

"There were not enough bike techs available," Christen said. "It created a traffic jam for 2,500 exhausted riders. By and large, it's an event where the logistics are handled very, very well."

After four years, Christen said

the event is in the stages of being fine-tuned. For example, last year the riders encountered very hot weather, so this year there were additional water stops.

AIDS activist Michael Petrelis,

who wrote a letter to Christen be-fore the ride to inquire about the SFAF's financial oversight, re-ceived a response from her just before the event.

In her letter, Christen stated the \$180,000 the SFAF paid to Pal-lotta and Associates (now called Pallotta TeamWorks) is a flat-rate

next page



ACT UP asks feds to investigate Florida **AIDS Ride fiasco**

Overhead 80+ percent, as in Philadelphia

by Mike Salinas

he producer of the American AIDS Rides may be delighted to hear that actress Lea Thompson intends to film a movie about his annual bicycle caravan fundraisers soon, but he is probably less excited about the rest of the media attention he's garnered this month. And, he has reason to fear, by the time Thompson films The Unknown Cyclist, it may get changed from a tale of inspiration to a financial mystery story.

Now that two of the regional

AIDS Rides have resulted in dis-mal returns for the charities they were intended to benefit - and for two years in a row, in one case

— designated beneficiaries across the country are beginning to question whether the events are

worth continuing.
In Florida, where the second annual AIDS Ride from Orlando annual AIDS Ride from Orlando to Miami earlier this month proved no more lucrative than the first (both spent about 82 percent on overhead), local organizers have had enough. On Monday, June 2, they announced they will not hire Pallotta Team-Works, the Los Angeles-based company that promotes AIDS rides in major cities around the country, for next year's ride. Instead, according to an article by Robin Benedick in the Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel, the charities that were supposed to benefit are that were supposed to benefit are now examining the possibility of putting on the event themselves in 1998.

John Weatherhead, director of John Weatherhead, director of CenterOne in Fort Lauderdale, one of six beneficiaries and the lead local agency, told the Sunsentinel, "We can't justify the return to ourselves, so there's no way to justify it to the donors."

The newspaper pointed out that the Florida ride's expenses were about \$1.2 million in 1996, including Pallotta TeamWork's \$160,000 fee plus publicity, support services, and other administrative costs. The 18 percent re-

trative costs. The 18 percent re-turn is about the same as last year's AIDS Ride from Philadelphia to Washington, which was so disastrous that Philadelphia pulled out of this year's event altogether. Producer Dan Pallotta maintains that those rides are

Cal. AIDS Ride

previous page

consulting fee that is paid in installments.
"We monitor the expenses on

we monitor the expenses on a monthly basis and do not reim-burse for any expenses which fall outside of the budget or which are not properly documented," she said in her letter. "We also track rider registration and pledge revenue on a weekly basis to assure that the event is on track to assure that the event is on track toward its goals. All San Francisco registered rider pledges are de-posited directly into a SFAF bank account."

AIDS activists on the front lines

to develop creative approaches to help eliminate the waiting lists

for direct services.

for direct services."

As it is now, he said, "Proceeds for AIDS services are just going down the drain." He also expressed concern that smaller AIDS service providers, particularly those serving minorities, are at a disadvantage because they cannot afford to pay the up-front fees charged by Pallotta; several DC AIDS service organizations serving predominantly African-Americans with AIDS closed down last year because they were unable to compete for outside funding after the AIDS Ride, he said.

said.

More than a year ago ACT UP/Washington proposed that AIDS Ride beneficiaries and other DC AIDS service organizations produce their own AIDS Ride using community and volunteer resources. The group is renewing the call this year, asking the Washington groups to follow the example set by the Florida beneficiaries. ▼

unusual, and that the average return for all the AIDS Rides he produces – from five to seven per year – is about 60 percent.

"How can that be?" asks Steve Michael of ACT UP/Washington, who is extremely critical of spending so much money to raise so little. "If two rides only return 18 percent, wouldn't that mean some of the other rides would have to return something like 80 percent for it all to even out?" He pointed out that there has never been a full disclosure or public accounting of the AIDS Rides to substantiate Pallotta's claim.

Michael and ACT UP/Washington have written to Attorney

ington have written to Attorney General Janet Reno to urge the Justice Department to investigate Pallotta TeamWorks and its

fundraising.
"We believe that Dan Pallotta
has duped thousands of wellmeaning donors into believing that the money they generate ac-tually goes to help people with AIDS," said the group's Wayne Turner. "Pallotta makes millions while people with AIDS contin-ue to suffer. He must become the target of a Justice Department investigation.'

The gin game

ACT UP has also urged a national boycott of Tanqueray, the gin and vodka company that "sponsors" the AIDS Rides with nominal financial backing (less than \$235 000 page ride for which than \$225,000 per ride, for which the liquor's name is emblazoned on ride literature, rider's shirts, and virtually everything else), until the company demands a better accounting of expenses from Pallotta Teamworks. "We intend to send a message

"We intend to send a message to Tanqueray that by working with an organization like Pallotta's they are aiding in the exploitation of the suffering of people with AIDS," Michael said in a statement. "The Ride in its present form does nothing but perpetuate the AIDS Industrial Complex."

perpetuate the AIDS Industrial Complex.

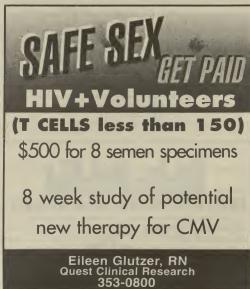
"The AIDS Ride has high overhead. The AIDS agencies have high overhead. Is any of this money actually going to directly benefit people with AIDS?"

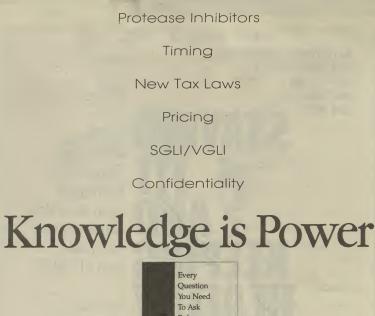
Activists in several cities, including New York, San Francisco, and Washington, kicked off the boycott by publicly pouring out bottles of Tanqueray gin Wednesday, June 11. Their aim is to convince the liquor company to fund vince the liquor company to fund

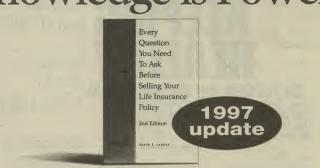
vince the liquor company to fund programs that directly benefit poor people with AIDS.

As Michael put it, "Everyone has seen the news accounts that thousands of people with AIDS all across America are sitting on waiting lists for AIDS housing, drug assistance and food. Those waiting lists for AID's housing, drug assistance, and food. Those waiting lists are not shrinking. They are growing. Pallotta and Tanqueray are exploiting the plight of poor people with AIDs, by creating an illusion that some of this ride money actually trickles down to provide basic life. les down to provide basic life needs. We are demanding that Tanqueray pull out of their deal with Pallotta and work with









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'Gay-looking' Marine held as molester sues Smithsonian

by Mike Salinas

ieutenant Colonel Mark Markell, a retired career
Marine Corps officer, filed
suit in Federal District Court in suit in Federal District Court in Washington DC, Friday, June 6, alleging discrimination at the Smithsonian Institution exactly one year earlier. The suit alleges Solid year earlier. The suit angest guards at the museum perceived Markell to be a gay man solely based on his appearance, then as-saulted and detained him based on a stereotype that gay men are child molesters

Such discriminatory treatment violates the U.S. Constitution, ac-

cording to the suit.

According to the lawsuit, the 62-year-old former Marine entered the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum on June 6th of History Museum on June 6th of last year, about an hour after a pair of young boys at the museum made a complaint of possible fondling. Immediately upon entering, Markell was followed by a Smithsonian guard, then surrounded and physically apprehended by five to six Smithsonian guards, who held his arms behind his back and forced his head down, in front of thousands of tourists, and denounced the man tourists, and denounced the man as a "fucking queer."

The suit goes on to state that Markell was taken to a security



Lt. Colonel Mark Markell

room, where he was forcibly deroom, where he was forcibly de-tained for questioning. During the next half hour, officers called him "fucking faggot" and other abusive epithets, refused to believe he was a Marine officer, and re-fused to call his godson's mother, who could vouch for his where-abouts during the incident in question.

It was only after the officers searched the Colonel's car – withsearched the Colone's car – with-out permission – that they dis-covered his military ID, called about the alibi, and realized the mistake that had been made, the suit indicates.

suit indicates.

Later, Markell learned that the officers had targeted him because he fit their profile of a gay man, and not because of a physical description of him from the alleged

"I never felt so insulted and belittled," he said in a statement.

"To think that I was arrested as a child molester because of my fit physique, my short hair, my jeans, and Hawaiian shirt, and whatever else these officers might have imagined a gay man to be." Markell lives in Hawaii with

his wife of 45 years. They have three children, two of whom are attorneys with the State of

attorneys with the State of Hawaii.

Markell's attorney, Mickey J. Wheatley, said, "The Smithsonian resorted to two discriminatory stereotypes of gay men in arresting my client. First, they believed they could tell if a man is gay solely by his appearance. Second, they believed that a gay man will be a child molester. child molester.

"These assumptions demon-strate that the Smithsonian treats strate that the Smithsonian treats perceived gay patrons in a discriminatory manner, which is a violation of gay people's constitutional right to be treated just like every other tourist at the museum," Wheatley said.

"For the first time I know the pain of being discriminated against," Markell said, "and I can't fathom why anyone would want to treat another human being in such a manner. I feel betraved by

such a manner. I feel betrayed by my country, which has never apologized or removed this stain from my record.

"When freedoms are denied to

any of my fellow citizens because of the prejudices of our own government, I have to wonder what I ernment, I have to wonder what I fought for during my over 30 years of service to the Marine Corps. I must wage this fight to reclaim my honor and respect as a career Marine officer." ▼

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Gay marriage at the Bar in NYC

Prestigious lawyers' group supports same-sex unions

by Bob Roehr

ay marriage has gained an important legal ally. "Same-Sex Marriage in New York" is a report adopted by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and published in its Record, vol. 52, no. 3, in April. The City Bar is one of the most prestigious in the country, and with gious in the country, and with 21,000 members it is the largest such municipal association.

The report concluded that "same-sex couples should be permitted to marry in New York be-cause both the federal and New York Constitutions require that the fundamental right of marriage be available to *all* couples of suitable capacity regardless of their sex, because the marriage laws of New York are gender neutral, and because same-sex marriage is en-tirely consistent with New York's

public policy."

It also urged that "New York

should recognize same-sex marriages entered into in sister states in accordance with the Full Faith and Credit Clause and New York's

and Credit Clause and New York's conflict-of-laws jurisprudence."
Peter Sherwin played a major role in drafting the report. He is the incoming president of the Bar's Committee on Lesbians and Gay Men in the Legal Profession. Last summer the group was approached to sign onto a pro same-sex marriage resolution. "But we sex marriage resolution. "But we don't do things by signing on," he said. "We do our own projects."

The Committee joined with the Committee on Civil Rights

and the Committee on Sex and Law in writing the document. It was then circulated among other relevant committees. The Committee on Matrimonial Law supported the effort and drafted an addendum, a "Catalogue of Rights and Responsibilities Accompany-ing Marriage," and began work on a "fuller study" of these issues and

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ENDA reintroduced in Congress

by Bob Roehr

he Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) was reintroduced in Congress on Tuesday, June 10 with strong bipartisan support. It extends workplace protection to lesbians and gays, but not transsexuals. It specifically prohibits the use of quotas, and exempts religious organizations and small businesses with fewer than 15 employees.

organizations and small business-es with fewer than 15 employees. The lead is being taken in the House by Christopher Shays (R-Connecticut) and Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) among its 150 co-sponsors. The Senate effort is headed by Jim Jeffords (R-Ver-mont), Ted Kennedy (D-Massa-chusetts) and Joseph Lieberman

mont), Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) and Joseph Lieberman (D-Connecticut), with 34 cosponsors. President Clinton has endorsed ENDA.

"This bill is about equal rights in the workplace for all Americans," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the leading organization behind ENDA.

Kerry Lobel, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), said, "The message of ENDA is clear and

employer should be able to terminate gays and lesbians, but rather about what constitutes valid grounds for terminating employ-ees in the United States. ... [Such ees in the United States. ... [Such a framework] allows gays and les-bians to speak as Americans who blans to speak as Afficincians who happen to be discriminated against, rather than as gays and lesbians promoting their own self-interests and their private

agendas."
Riki Anne Wilchins, executive director of GenderPAC, said the group hopes to have an amendment introduced to ENDA that will expand coverage "so that all people will enjoy protection in the workplace," including transgender people. She wants to make sure those efforts "are not premature" and that it will be an opening of and that it will be an opening of discussion rather than a debacle.

Others question the ENDA strategy, and would prefer to push for full civil rights legislation now for full civil rights legislation now rather than have to go back for other pieces at a later date. They say that the strategy was formed years ago when the effort to pass state civil rights protections had bogged down, but that trend has reversed and the strategy should be reviewed. Rhode Island passed a gay rights bill in 1995, and New



"We are closer than ever to getting this bill passed. It is the right thing to do," said Matt Coles, director of the American Civil Liberties Union Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. However, praise for ENDA is not universal: it does not protect transgenders.

straightforward. Discrimination straightfor Ward, Discrimination is wrong. We look forward to the day when gay, lesbian, bisexual – and transgendered – people no longer have to fear the loss of their jobs on the basis of their sexual extention." orientation."

"Today marks a giant leap forward in realizing two of our goals," said Rich Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans. "They are having senior Republicans take on the issue of civil rights protections for gays and leaching and having the gay and

rights protections for gays and lesbians, and having the gay and lesbian community recognize the importance of working with Republicans."
"We are closer than ever to getting this bill passed," said Matt Coles, director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. "It is the right thing to do."

However, praise for ENDA is However, praise for ENDA is not universal, as it does not in-clude job protection for transgen-der people. That community en-gaged in an ongoing two-year di-alogue with HRC to broaden the language of the bill to address their concerns, but they did not succeed.

succeed.
Earlier this year New Orleans activist Nancy Sharp said, "We cannot talk about morals and ethics if HRC has no ethical or moral compass guiding their political positions.
"The discussion which needs to take place is not whether an

Hampshire and Maine did likewise this year. That increases to 11 the number of states with full civil rights protections for lesbians and

Background

The community first sought to end anti-gay discrimination in 1974 through an amendment to existing civil rights legislation introduced by Bella Abzug (D-New York) in the House. Edolphus Towns (D-New York) continues the introduced to the sector of each continue to the civil rest of feethers. to introduce it at the start of each session. But it has made little headway, perhaps because in re-cent years groups like HRC have ignored it and tried to pretend

four years ago, the HRC looked to its polling data and decided it would be easier to pass legislation dealing only with employment. Thus it adopted the ENDA strategy. It took more than a year to work out language that would gain the support of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the coalition of nearly two hundred organizations that has backed all previously successful civil rights bills.

ENDA was introduced in June 1994, and the Democratic Congress held hearings in both houses. Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Deval Patrick declined the offer to testify and in-stead sent a letter, in which the Clinton administration endorsed the concept but not the language of ENDA. Clinton would come



Matt Coles

onboard only in October 1995, after some minor changes to the language of the bill. The Democ-rats did not vote on ENDA, even at the committee level, in either

The 1994 elections brought huge Republican gains and con-trol of both houses. Many people felt that ENDA was now dead. They were surprised when Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Mississippi) cut a deal with Kennedy last sppi) cut a deal with Rennedy last September and allowed a vote on the Senate floor. And surprised again at how close the vote actual-ly was, a whisker-thin 49-50 de-

ENDA likely will not come up for a vote in the Senate until next year, and many observers believe it may pass, although that is not assured. The outlook is more un-certain in the House. ▼

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Right-wing groups denounce American Airlines' gay 'endorsement'

... but major papers refuse to carry ad

by Mike Salinas

ome of the country's most vocal anti-gay groups have launched a campaign to de-nounce American Airlines' partic-ipation in AIDS fundraising and gay pride events, by placing an ad in several papers on Wednesday,

The advertisement, which took The advertisement, which took the form of an open letter to the airline's Chief Executive Officer Robert Crandall, was signed by Gary L. Bauer of the Family Research Council, D. James Kennedy of Coral Ridge Ministries, James Dobson of Focus on the Family. Dobson of Focus on the Family, Donald Wildmon of the American Family Association, Beverly LaHaye of Concerned Women for America, and Richard Land of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The ad outlines American's "support of homosexuality' through discount fares for dothrough discount fares for do-mestic partners, its sponsorship of gay pride events and all-night AIDS fundraising circuit parties, and its designation as the official carrier of a gay schoolteachers group. It also denounced Ameri-can's donations to "partisan ho-mosexual activist groups" such as the Human Rights Campaign, and Parents, Friends and Family of Lesbians and Gays; the anti-gay groups that placed the ad pointed out that both HRC and PFLAG have called their organizations "extremist" and "bigoted." USA Today, the Dallas Morn-ing News, and the Fort Worth Star

Telegram refused to carry the ad, but it was accepted by the Wash-ington Times, the Allen, Texas American, the Plano, Texas Star-Courier, the Louisville Leader, and

of a major issue while posing as

objective sources of information.
"We call on USA Today, the
Dallas Morning News, and the Fort
Worth Star-Telegram to reexamine
their indefensible rejection of a
reasonable, soundly researched, and documented advertisement. And we call on American Airlines to stop lending its name to behavior that is immoral, unhealthy, and destructive to individuals, ty on all of society."

ty on all of society."

Ironically, American Airlines is not considered particularly gaypositive to many in the gay and
lesbian community. The airline is
still struggling to overcome a reputation as homophobic, largely based upon two widely-reported incidents in 1993. The late Timothy Holliss, a San Francisco gay man with end-stage AIDS and Kaposi's sarcoma, was arrested to Dallas requested "a complete change of all pillows and blankets due to gay activists on board" en route from the March on Washington.

Last year, 11 gay and lesbian American Airline flight attendants filed an 86-count anti-gay job bias complaint with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, alleging a pattern of anti-gay harassment by airline management at San Francisco International Air-port; that the airline discriminated on the basis of HIV status and sexual orientation; and that American security personnel maintained a "hit list" of gay flight attendants to target for harassment.

According to the brief filed

According to the brief filed with the commission, the attendants experienced ongoing harassment and discrimination including "slander regarding job performance, attendance, and health issues related to AIDS hysteria; disparaging remarks about their several orientation, falsificatheir sexual orientation, falsificafile documents, wrongful disci-

pline and false charges."

American Airlines denied the charges. ▼

Ironically, American Airlines is not considered particularly gay-positive to many in the gay and lesbian community. The airline is still struggling to overcome a reputation as homophobic.

other, similar papers.

After the ad's rejection by the major newspapers, the groups said in a collective statement, "The national press has long been biased toward the homosexual ac-tivist movement, but now we are witnessing outright suppression

We support the existence of a free press. Newspapers have a right to print what they want, and to decline to print. But we also have the right to expose how they are actively suppressing one side

families, and societies."
Robert Knight, the Family Research Council's director of cultural studies, said in a statement, "American is free to market their services in any way they see fit. They are also free to support homosexual activism. But we are free to alert the American people to their agenda and to urge Mr. Crandall to stop his airline's en-dorsement of a radical movement that seeks to use government and corporate power to impose oblig-atory acceptance of homosexualiand dragged from an American flight in Chicago after refusing to comply with a flight attendant's order that he cover his KS lesions. Holliss's friends have claimed the humiliation he suffered during the incident directly contributed to his death shortly thereafter. And in April of that year, workers on a flight from Washington DC

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Authorities release bombing letters

United Press International

ederal investigators have reederal investigators have re-leased copies of four letters from a group called the Army of God, which claimed re-sponsibility for bombings earlier this year at an abortion clinic and lesbian nightclub in Atlanta,

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms released photographs on Monday, June 9 of two men seen near the abortion clinic before two bombs went off in January. They said the men may only be witnesses, not

suspects.

They also showed a blurry image, taken from a videotape, of someone sitting on the bench where a bomb exploded in Cenwhere a bomb exploded in Cen-tennial Olympic Park last sum-mer, causing two deaths and in-juring more than 100 people. The tape was made minutes before the pipe bomb went off.



Photo composite two



Photo composite one

Jack Daulton, the inspector in charge of the task force investigat-ing the bombings, says the letters suggest that all three of the bomb-

ings are linked.

Daulton said the author of the Daulton said the author of the letters is a violent opponent of abortion, homosexuality, and the federal government. He said the letters talked about "an ungodly Communist regime in New York" and "legislative bureaucratic lackeys in Washington."

Daulton says, "The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.' The author The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.' The author The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.' The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.' The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.' The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.' The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.' The author also refers to homosexuals as sodomites and spells the word perversion as 'preversion.'

perversion as 'preversion.' The au-thor closes the letter with the phrase, 'Death to the new world order.'"

Agents say they have investi-gated hundreds of suspects and pursued thousands of forensic leads. But Daulton says investigators "are confident that someone in the public has information that will lead to the identification of the person or persons responsible for these brutal crimes." ▼

'Diversity is a powerful strength'

Clinton's assault on hate crimes

A radio address delivered by President Bill Clinton Saturday, June 7

ood morning. This morning I want to talk about one of America's greatest challenges and greatest opportunities — conquering the forces of hatred and division that still exist in our society so that we can move forward into the 21st century as one

We are clearly the world's most We are clearly the world's most diverse democracy, bound togeth-er across all of our differences by a belief in the basic dignity of every human being's life and liberty and the right of every American who lives by our laws and lives up to bit or better exponsibilities to the his or her responsibilities to share in the full promise of the greatest nation on Earth.

nation on Earth.

Especially as we move into a new century with its global economic and its global society, our rich diversity is a powerful strength, if we respect it. We are clearly stronger as a nation when we use the full talents of all of our people regardless of area or relief. people, regardless of race or reli-gious faith, national origin or sex-ual orientation, gender or disability. Much of America's story is re-ally the stories of wave after wave

ally the stories of wave after wave of citizens struggling over our full history for full equality of opportunity and dignified treatment.

We stand today in sharp contrast to the racial, ethnic, tribal and religious conflicts which continue to claim so many lives all around the world. But we have still not purged ourselves of all bigotry and intolerance. We still have our ugly words and awful vi-olence, our burned churches and

bombed buildings.

In a predominantly white sub-urb of Atlanta, Georgia last month, an African-American couple was greeted with racial epithets as they moved into their new home. Just a week later, their home was sprayed with gunfire in the middle of the night. In a recent incident right here

In a recent incident right here in Washington DC, three men accosted a gay man in a park, forced him at gunpoint to go under a bridge and beat him viciously while using anti-gay epithets.

Last fall in Los Angeles, a Jewish student's dormitory room was bombed with a quarter stick of dynamite, and a swattler was

dynamite and a swastika was drawn near the door.

Such hate crimes, committed solely because the victims have a different skin color or a different faith or are gays or lesbians, leave deep scars not only on the victims but on any large second. tims, but on our larger communi-ty. They weaken the sense that we are one people with common val-ues and a common future. They

tear us apart when we should be tear us apart when we should be moving closer together. They are acts of violence against America itself. And even a small number of Americans who harbor and act upon hatred and intolerance can do enormous damage to our efforts to bind together our increasingly diverse society into one nation realizing its full promise.

As part of our preparation for the new century, it is time for us to mount an all-out assault on hate crimes, to punish them swift-ly and severely, and to do more to prevent them from happening in who is targeted because of unfair stereotypes. To truly move forward as one community, it is just not enough to prevent acts of vi-olence to our bodies, we must prevent acts of violence to our

By convening the very first White House Conference on Hate Crimes this November, America can confront the dark forces of division that still exist. We can shine the bright light of justice, humanity and harmony on them. We'll take a serious look at the laws and remedies that can make a differ-

'A newborn child today does not know how to hate or stereotype another human being: that behavior must be learned. We must prevent violence to our spirits.'

the first place. We must begin with a deeper understanding of the problem itself.

That is why I'm convening a special White House conference on hate crimes this November 10th. We'll bring to the White House victims of hate crimes and their families to understand why the impact of these acts runs so much deeper than the crimes themselves. We'll bring together law enforcement experts and leading officials from Congress and the Justice Department to take a serious look at the existing laws against hate crime and conlaws against nate crime and consider ways to improve enforcement and to strengthen them. We'll bring together community and religious leaders to talk about solutions that are already making real difference in communities all across our nation.

In preparation for the confer-

ence, Attorney General Reno has begun a thorough review of the laws concerning hate crimes and the ways in which the federal gov-ernment can make a difference to help us to build a more vigorous plan of action. But, of course, the fight against hatred and intolerance must be waged not just through our laws, but in our hearts as well.

hearts as well.

A newborn child today does not know how to hate or stereotype another human being; that behavior must be learned. And intolerance does not generally begin with criminal acts. Instead, it begins with quiet acts of indignity: the bigoted remark, the African-American who is followed around the grocery store by a suspicious clerk, the gay or lesbian who is denied a job, the Hispanic or Asian

ence in preventing hate crimes. We'll have the frank and open di-alogue we need to build one America across all difference and diversity. And, together, we will move closer to the day when acts move closer to the day when acts of hatred are no longer a stain on our community or our conscience; closer to the day when we can redeem for ourselves and show to the world the 220-year-old promise of our founders, that we are "One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Thanks for listening

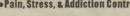
Thanks for listening

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- Call for more details, other criteria may apply.

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Clinton speech

Riki Anne Wilchins, executive director of GenderPAC, the transgender political organization. "It's like saying you are for mother-hood and against badness. It's a no-brainer."

GenderPAC was among those who met with the Justice Department in mid-May to discuss the issue. People need to be "speaking

out about hate crimes against

out about hate crimes against people who are gender queer, gender different, or simply gender vulnerable," said Wilchins.

"That includes everyone from [murdered Nebraska transsexual] Brandon Teena, to a straight girl in the East Village with a one-inch haircut and piercings who goes home to her parents for a visit and gets beat up, to a straight man in prison who is raped," Wilchins said. "Those are all gender hate crimes."

New UCSF studies look at crypto, couples

by Dennis Conkin

he University of California, San Francisco is now cruiting for two new AIDS-related studies.

Unlike most AIDS-related studies, one of the studies at UCSF requires mostly HIV-nega-OCSF requires mostly HIV-nega-tive men: researchers are looking for 50 HIV-negative gay couples and 50 mixed-status gay couples for a landmark study of sexual be-havior and HIV transmission risk. Another university study needs people who have AIDS and cryptosporidiosis, to participate in a clinical trial of a possible treat-ment for the severe diarrhea that can result from cryptosporidium

The crypto clinical trial will be a six-week double-blind, placebo-controlled trial to determine the efficacy of nitazoxanide (NZT) in treating the affliction. Participants will randomly be assigned either

will randomly be assigned either the drug or a placebo.

After the initial six weeks of the trial, all patients will be given NZT at two different doses for a period of six months, according to Lisa Gooze, MD, UCSF assistant professor of medicine at the UCSF-affiliated San Francisco

General Hospital.
Cryptosporidiosis is a protozoal infection contracted by fecally contaminated food or water, or contact with feces of an infected contact with feces of an infected person. Although people with healthy immune systems usually suffer few, if any side effects when they ingest the organism, expo-sure can be fatal to people with AIDS and other immune diseases. The disease causes unrelenting The disease causes unrelenting profuse and life-threatening diarrhea, abdominal cramping, severe dehydration, and weight loss. There is no cure for crypto infec-tion, and existing treatments are

tion, and existing treatments are mostly ineffective.

NZT, the subject of the UCSF study, has shown promising results in earlier trials, including improvement of symptoms.

The study seeks ten people with AIDS whose cryptosporidiosis has been confirmed in a labtested study sample, who can une tested stool sample, who can undergo a week long wash-out of previous anti-cryptosporidiosis medication, and who have a min-imum of four excretory episodes

The study is being conducted as part of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group and is supported by the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Disease

Are there 100 gay couples in SF?

In a landmark study by Center For AIDS Prevention Studies, 100 male couples are being recruited to examine the risk of HIV transmission among gay men who are in relationships, and to address how couples communicate those

According to UCSF's Colleen

of risk among couples, and reveal whether HIV prevention efforts

need to target gay male couples.
Unpublished studies have indicated that a large proportion of HIV transmission among gay men results from unsafe sex within primary relationships.

"For many, a condom symbolizes a barrier to intimacy and closeness in a relationship. For others, it symbolizes protection and caring. Couples are continually challenged by these complex and emotionally loaded issues," said Hoff, in a press statement. "Gay men define their rela-

tionships in many ways," said Hoff. "Age, ethnicity, and length of the relationship are factors that determine sexual norms and behavior, as well as what partners expect from each other." ▼

Study participants will fill out a questionnaire and be asked to be available for a brief phone interview once a week for three months. For information about the gay male couple study, contact 597-4988. For more information about the NZT clinical trial, contact Kathy Dybeck at 476-9296 ext. 353.

GLMA warns of risk to patient confidentiality at HHS hearing

by Cynthia Laird

he Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) was represented among those testifying before a federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) committee Tuesday, June 3, about proposed federal laws on patient privacy that are expected to come before Congress soon. Specifically, the GLMA warned that the introduction of policies that do not fully protect patient confidentiality could have a negative impact on the gay and

lesbian community.

GLMA is a San Francisco-

over 1,800 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender physicians, medical students, and their supporters.

In August, HHS is expected to submit much-needed recommen-dations on methods of protecting patient confidentiality to Con-gress. Current federal and state laws do little to protect the confi-dentiality of patient medical records, according to GLMA Di-rector of Public Policy Marj Plumb, and inappropriate disclosure of that information is of critsure of that information is of critical concern to gay and lesbian pa-tients because of the discrimina-tion they frequently face within the healthcare establishment and

in society at large.
"Having it be known that one is lesbian, gay, bisexual, or HIV-infected," Plum testified before the Mational Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, "leaves one open to being openly despised and po-tentially discriminated against." A study done by GLMA, "Anti-

Gay Discrimination in Medicine: Results of a National Survey of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Physicians," underscores the Catch-22 gay and lesbian patients face, and highlights the need for legislation that ensures confidentiality, Plumb stated.

In the survey, 98 percent of the physicians who responded believed that lesbian, gay, and bisexual patients have medical concerns that might be overlooked if they do not disclose their sexual they do not disclose their sexual orientation. Yet, the survey also found that when a patient's sexu-al orientation and HIV status are made known, gay and lesbian patients run a serious risk of en-countering discrimination by medical professionals, insurance companies, and healthcare ad-

ministrators.

"GLMA has to take the lead in

because patient confidentiality is critical to the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender patients," said Dr. Jocelyn White, the association's president and a Port-

and, Oregon internist.

"Over the years we have seen patient confidentiality eroded by the increased reach of insurance companies and managed care organizations," she added. "We will not allow that to continue. If pa-tients fear disclosure of their med-

tients fear disclosure of their medical records, they will not seek the care they desperately need."

GLMA supports the implementation of policies and laws that will limit and penalize inappropriate disclosure of a patient's sexual orientation, gender identity, and health or HIV status. The hoard of directors recently passed board of directors recently passed a resolution underscoring its commitment to work closely with policy-makers to develop patient confidentiality legislation and regulations that protect the gay community.

For more information about GLMA, call (415) 255-4547.

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is now screening for a new study of the antiretroviral combination

Viracept, Nevirapine, and d4T

Main qualifications for the study are:

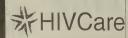
- ▲ CD4 count of 100 or greater
- ▲ viral load of 5,000 or greater
- ▲ no past use of protease inhibitors
- ▲ no past use of Nevirapine
- ▲less than 6 months use of d4T

This study will be examining the interaction between these three drugs, and their effect on viral load and CD4 counts.

This combination of drugs represents one from each "class" of antiretrovirals available; Nevirapine is a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, d4T is a nucleoside analogue, and Viracept is the newest protease inhibitor to be approved.

The study will last for seven months and will require two overnight hospital stays. Viral loads and CD4 counts will be done with each visit. \$500. compensation provided.

For more information, please call Sher Vieira at (415) 353-6215.



Free garage parking is provided. Transportation and childcare costs are reimbursable.

HIVCare is a non-profit program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital and is a member of AmFAR's Community Based Clinical Trials Network

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Get in-line for UCSF AIDS charity next Sun.

Business Wire

lympic gold-medalist Kristi Yamaguchi and other professional skaters and celebrity athletes will combine their time and talents to host an in-line skating festival that will benefit a UCSF program for women and children with HIV and otherwise affected by AIDS.

affected by ĀIDS.

"Skates in the Park II" is for thrill-seekers of all ages, and will take place next Sunday, June 22, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., starting from Eighth Avenue and Fulton in Golden Gate Park.

The event will allow participants to skate a ten-kilometer course in Golden Gate Park. Tiered entrance fees begin at \$25 for entry, entertainment, and lunch. In addition, parking is available for \$3 at the UCSF Garage, located at Second Avenue and Irving, with shuttle service to Golden Gate Park.

The event benefits Yamaguchi's "Always Dream" Foundation, which has selected the UCSF Women's and Children's Specialty Program and one of three community programs that will receive

Program and one of three community programs that will receive

this year's proceeds.

Each year, the UCSF Women's and Children's Specialty Program provides comprehensive medical care and social services to more than 250 clients living with HIV disease. The program focuses on families and provides care of all children impacted by AIDS, including those not infected themselves but who have lost a parent or sibling.

To register for "Skates in the Park II" or for more information, call 415/334-PARK.

UCSF studies: CMV danger in protease users, plus better lymphoma regimen

Business wire

multi-center study led by researchers at UC San Francisco has found that people with AIDS who suffer from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) can be as effectively treated with low doses of chemotherapy as the standard high doses, the re-searchers reported in the June 5 issue of the New England Journal

The finding could have far-reaching effects on treatment for NHL, a fast-growing cancer of the lymph system, particularly its concluding recommendation to treat most HIV-infected NHL patients with reduced chemothera-

The study at 27 sites around the U.S. randomly assigned 192 patients to either low dose or

standard dose chemotherapy be-tween February 1991 and October 1994. It found that 40 percent in the low-dose group and 45 per-cent in the standard-dose group cent in the standard-dose group had favorable outcomes from the treatment. There were no signifi-cant differences in the survival rates of the two patient groups, the researchers reported, and there were significantly fewer toxic effects from the treatment in patients who received low doses of

chemotherapy.

"This is the first time we have had a controlled study that directhad a controlled study that direct-ly compares low dose chemother-apy to standard dose," said Lawrence D. Kaplan, M.D., asso-ciate professor of medicine with the UCSF AIDS Program at San Francisco General Hospital and principal investigator of the study. "Earlier and smaller studies in HIV-infected patients suggested treatments were similar and the low dose was well tolerated, but we had no direct comparison of

we had no direct comparison of clinical outcomes."
HIV-infected patients suffer from immune system dysfunction which includes poor bone marrow reserves. They are also susceptible to NHL, an aggressive cancer that affects five to ten percent of AIDS patients. Standard doses of chemotherapy, which can be toxic even to cancer patients who do not have AIDS, can be particularly difficult for HIV-infected patients to tolerate since fected patients to tolerate since the treatment further depletes bone marrow reserves and sup-presses the already-compromised immune system, leaving the pa-tient even more defenseless against an onslaught from oppor-

tunistic infections, Kaplan said.
Patients in the study who received the low-dose chemotherapy received approximately 50 per-cent less drug than the standarddose group, and there were con-cerns that the lower dose chemotherapy would be less ef-fective against the lymphoma. But, Kaplan said, "This study sug-gests that is not the case. You can treat NHL with lower and better-tolerated doses, and the response and survival rates will be comparable. We recommend giving lower doses to most patients."

lower doses to most patients."

The investigators concluded that the absolute CD4 immune cell count of an HIV-infected patient with NHL is more important in predicting treatment outcome than the aggressiveness of chemotherapy treatment given.

If a patient has fewer than 200

CD4 cells per cubic millimeter of blood, there is clearly no signifi-cant difference in the outcome of treatment with either standard or low-dose chemotherapy. "Howev-er, there were not enough individ-uals with higher [more than 200] CD4 cell counts in this study to be able to determine whether some of them might have benefited from more aggressive chemother apy," Kaplan said.

CMV dangers

Another UCSF study has found that people with AIDS who take protease inhibitors to treat their HIV infection may develop

their HIV infection may develop cytomegalovirus (CMV) retinitis following the treatment.

CMV retinitis is a serious eye disease that affects 40 percent of patients with advanced AIDS and can lead to blindness.

The study reported on five patients who had taken protease inhibitors. Although the treatment was successful in fighting HIV infection as evidenced by a rise in fection as evidenced by a rise in patient CD4+ cells, the increase to approximately 200 cells per cubic

approximately 200 cells per cubic millimeter from fewer than 100 did not protect them from developing CMV retinitis.

"Previously we believed that patients who had CD4+ cell counts below 50 were susceptible to CMV retinitis," said Mark Jacobson, M.D., associate professor of medicine at the UCSF AIDS Program at San Francisco General Hospital and the first author of the study. "Now we have found that patients can have counts well over 100 and still develop CMV retinitis – and that it might be retinitis – and that it might be triggered by taking protease in-

The researchers commented in the study, which was published in the journal *The Lancet* in May, that these observations have im portant implications for treat-

ment.

"If you give protease inhibitors to a patient with low CD4+ cells, you need to be vigilant. In the cases we reported, the patients developed CMV retinitis within a few weeks. Clinicians should be aware that patients with CD4+ cell counts well over 100 can be effected, and that an increase in presents in presents in presents in presents in presents in presents in the country of the count affected, and that an increase in CD4+ cells following protease inhibitor treatment is not necessar-ily protective," Jacobson said. The cause of the phenomenon

is not yet understood, he said. However, it is possible that as the patients responded well to the protease inhibitor therapy, the ef-fect of their strengthened immune systems was to trigger the onset of CMV retinitis. This could happen, Jacobson said, as the protease inhibitors subdued the HIV infection sufficiently for the body to increase its infection-fighting CD4+ cells which are destroyed by HIV.

Those new and increased Those new and increased numbers of infection-fighting cells would then seek out and "attack" CMV infection in the retina of the eye, creating an inflammatory response in the process, thus leading to CMV retinitis.

The study was conducted in collaboration with National Institute of Allergrand Lifetines Discretions Di

tute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) sites around the country and was supported by a grant from the ACTG. ▼

NY Bar

▼ page 22

"their implications for same-sex

The report was subsequently reviewed by the president and executive committee of the Bar. With its publication it became an official document of the association.

cal document of the association.

"A lot of people really don't understand how marriage is regulated," said Sherwin. "They don't understand the benefits and burdens." Thus he sees the report as an important education tool that may well be used as a resource in deciding cases. He believes "the report carries more weight than a law review article because it is not just the pronouncement of one individual author but the statement of the City Bar," which is representative of all segments of the legal community.

the legal community.

Arthur Leonard, a professor at the New York Law School, believes the report can immediately be used to help defeat a state anti-gay marriage bill. It makes it easier to convince state legislators that "if they pass such a bill, it would be tied up in the courts and ultimately found unconstitutional" mately found unconstitutional.

mately found unconstitutional."
Mary Bonato, executive director of Gay and Lesbian Defenders
(GLAD) in Boston, called the report "a helpful segue" to think and talk about gay marriage. "We have a legitimate issue here, and lawyers are going to be asked to take a stand on this. They are going to have real clients in their offices, with real problems." The offices, with real problems." The local bar should be dealing with it

before that happens.
Gay marriage leader Evan
Wolfson, an attorney with the
Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, is elated that "one of cation Fund, is elated that "one of the most prestigious mainstream legal organizations in this country is calling for full equality in mar-riage. That is something that two years ago people' said could never happen."

He saw the report as "an exam-ple of the kind of outreach we need

ple of the kind of outreach we need to do to non-gay leaders and groups. It is a reminder that when we do it, we will get more support than we might have expected." He said that "historically, the gay movement tends to be pretty good at demanding, but we are not good at asking. We need to do both."

at asking. We need to do both."
Going to legal associations, churches, and other potential allies is a vital part of that struggle for gay marriage. The shock effect of the idea is wearing off, "you create a sense of it being inevitable, and once that happens, then people adjust to it. That is what is happening with marriage."

ple adjust to it. That is what is happening with marriage."
Wolfson's optimism is reflected on the legislative front as well. "A year and a half ago, the idea that we would win anywhere on marriage was considered absurd, but suddenly we are winning more than we are losing in legislatures (defeating anti-gay marriage legislation). That is quite striking." ▼

"Same-Sex Marriage in New York" is available from Mark Lutin, communications director of the City Bar, mlutin@abcny. org, or (212) 382-6600.

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Lesbian cows

◄ page **15**

the family, role models for children, and the results are crime, dren, and the results are crime, the youth crime in gang prob-lems which so desperately plague our communities today. I say that we should, in fact, be tolerant. No one can condone otherwise intol-erance here. But, at the same time, I would caution and submit to you that the anatomy of a man and a woman [can] not lead to and a woman [can] not lead to the sexual proclivity of the two ... and I would also remind you of the beauty of a relationship with a best friend.

"I have many good friends and so have you. And one man

and another's good, best friends you know, my best friend died just recently ... was a very pre-cious thing. As is the friendship of my brother before he passed away and I, and others of my sex, and likewise my daughter and and likewise my daughter and wife have very good, close friends of their own sex. But, but ... I caution you all ... I caution you all ... I caution you all very gravely that when those relationships go beyond friendship and intimacy and become sexual, then we are ... then we are crossing the bonds of what I think our society today will accept and will tolerate and what, in fact, is healthy for our comin fact, is healthy for our communities."

Assemblymember Frusetta then voted against AB 101. ▼

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grammar, and caste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Ray Carter Alexander Feb. 3, 1927 - May 8, 1997



Ray Alexander, a longtime resident of the Castro, died on May 8, 1997.
Alexander came to San Francisco from Los Angeles in 1968 as manger of DA Imports, contemporary furniture; later he operated the Battery Street and King Street Furniture Faires. Open-heart surgery and a recent stroke kept him from continuing in business.

recent stroke kept him from continuing in business.
Alexander, the son of Merle and Ray E. Alexander in Portland, Ore, attended Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass. He completed a B.A. in Drama at Yale in 1953, continuing with courses in the Yale Drama School, He also graduated from New York University's Radio/TV Workshop.
Prior to Yale, Alexander entered the U.S. Army in June 1945. Commissioned a second lieutenant, he served in Korea, 1946-47. Following active duty, Alexander was in the Army Reserve until 1957, having been promoted to first lieutenant in 1952. As a special services officer, he organized and staged soldier shows and music events.
Returning West after Yale, Alexander was a producer/director for KLOR-TV in Portland. He acted in four plays at the Ashland Shakespeare Festival during the 1956 season.

the 1956 season.

Alexander is survived by his companion of 40 years, John Wasielewski.

Stephen Gerard Frugoli June 11, 1964 – May 14, 1997



Stephen Frugoli died peacefully on the morning of Wednesday, May 14, after a long and valorous battle with AIDS. A Bay Area native, Stephen at-tended San Francis-

tended San Francis-co State University where he studied theatre arts. An exceptionally talented singer and actor, he performed with many local groups, including the SF Gay Men's Chorus, SF Opera Chorus, The-atre Rhinoceros and 42nd Street Moon

In 1989, Stephen won a Bay Area

Theatre Critics Award for his acclaimed performance in the title role of Candide with Theatre Works. He then left his heart in San Francisco and went out on the road with the first national tour of Les Miserables.

Stephen was a man of great physical and spiritual beauty, tremendous strength and courage, and amazing elegance and style. He was preceded in death by his beloved partner, Steve Sutherland, but is survived by his parents, MaryAnn and Gene Frugoli of Livingston; many cousins, aunts and uncles; and an extraordinary circle of loving friends and caregivers, especially his dearest friends, Erin-Kate Whitcomb and Michele Rutherford, with whom he made his home. There will be a planting in his honor at the National AIDS Memorial Grove on Saturday, June 21, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Scott A. Gauldin May 17, 1997



Scott A. Gauldin, 44, of San Francisco, formerly of Muncie, Ind., died Saturday, May 17, at UCSF Med-ical Center.

Scott was born in Muncie, the son

in Muncie, the son of Albert and Geor-gia Butler Gauldin. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Muncie and Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in

San Francisco.
Surviving are a son, Blake Scott; two brothers, Randy and Cecil Gauldin, both of Muncie; four aunts, Katie Haskins (and her husband Millton). Effie Scott, Ora Washington (all of Muncie) and Marie Butler of Indianapolis; one uncle, J.R. Butler of Muncie; a cousin, Dollie Grimes of Muncie, who raised him; his goddaughter, Gina Marie Gracham, nieces, nephews and cousins; and Kent Blair of Muncie, representing his many friends.

many friends.
Funeral services were held at Trinity
Methodist Church in Muncie May 24. A
memorial service for Scott Gauldin will
be held at SF's Glide Memorial United
Methodist Church on Sunday, June 22,

John G. Keck IV Jan. 18, 1958 - May 29, 1997



Over the past six years, Johnny witnessed over 40 of his friends pass over before this awful disease caught up with him, too. I knew John for over 17 years; he was in my

employ as an auto mechanic. Despite no formal training, he demonstrated a high level of skill in

John worked tirelessly at many HIVrelated fundraisers, especially the annual AIDS Dance-A-Thon. He raised over \$500 in contributions single-handedly

each year.

During his final five years, John enjoyed his last intimate relationship with Ken Ferrando. Ken, in his heart of hearts, demonstrated his fondness an love for John, who will be missed by Ken and many others, including Jim,

Eric, Rodney, Larry, Kieth and myself, Paul Graham. John is also survived by his mother, Ester; father, John Sr.; brother, Steve; and sisters, Mary and

Debbie.
Johnny was a jokester, always laughing at life. I wish him well and hope that he now rests in peace, buried next to his grandparents, as was his wish.

A memorial for all who wish to attend is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 10 a.m. at St. Robert's Catholic Church, 1380 Crystal Springs Road, San Bruno, Calif.

Matthew John Lynch June 1, 1996 Quentin Scobel

Matthew John Lynch and his part-ner Quentin Scobel – You're both gone from us, but never forgotten!/We'll meet again, dear friends/Loving and laughing with God/This time...with the best seats in The House!

Edward Duncan Martino Dec. 20, 1962 - Aug. 1, 1996

Dec. 20, 1962 – Aug. 1, 1996

Edward D. Martino's 10-year struggle with HIV/AIDS ended on August 1, 1996, because he was denied possible lifesaving medications due to a T-cell count which was adjudged too low. He was a 10-year resident of Orlando, Fla., where he worked and served his community as a trauma nurse in the ER at Florida Hospital. More recently, he worked for Disney World in Guest Relations and choreographed the Silk Corps for the Kissimmee Senior High School Marching Band in Kissimmee, Fla. Ed shined in his community as a well-known volunter for the United Way and Helping Hand. He willingly spent numerous hours each weekend talking to teen-agers about the HIV pandemic and prevention. Edward loved people, and his warmth radiated from him like a sunbeam of great strength which can break through the heaviest of dark clouds. He is survived by Peggy Taylor Campbell, his best friend and spiritual wife.

A memorial service to honor Ed's life and achievements will be held at Ocean Beach in San Francisco. A reception celebrating Edward's life will immediately follow.

Robert W. Parsons May 21, 1997

Robert W. Parsons, 43, died sudden-ly of natural causes in San Francicco on May 21. A native of Butler, Penn, he had lived in the Bay Area for 16 years. A graduate of the University of Col-orado in 1976, Bob had been a paralegal for various law firms in San Francisco since 1979. He moved to Noe Valley in

1982.

A lifelong music aficionado, Bob enjoyed working as a deejay. He was active in many organizations that feed the hungry and needy.

Bob is survived by his mother,

Bob is survived by his mother, Mona Parsons; sister, Susan Parsons; brothers, Andrew and Daniel Parsons; nephews, R. Maxwell Spears and William Parsons; and his niece, Anna Spears. Burial at sea by the Neptune So-ciety of Northern California, with an Episcopalian service, is planned.

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'Sensible medical marijuana policy' wins one and loses one in Bay Area

by Cynthia Laird

he Oakland City Council unanimously passed a reso-lution Thursday, June 5, urging law enforcement not to ar-rest and prosecute individuals in-volved with the "possession, pur-chase, distribution, cultivation,

manufacture, or transportation of marijuana or cannabis products for medical use." The new resolution is the lat-

est in a series of official policy pronouncements from the East Bay city expressing a tolerant atti-tude toward medical marijuana. "A sensible marijuana policy is

good for patients and good for the

city of Oakland, and our elected

representatives recognize that fact," said attorney Robert Raich. The measure gives an "official green light" not only to the culti-vation of marijuana for medical use, but also to the manufacture of products such as hashish, hash oil, tinctures, and all manner of baked goods and other edible prepara-tions, said Dale Gieringer of the California chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML).

Marijuana Laws (NORML).

In a related matter, the city of Palo Alto adopted an emergency ordinance Monday, June 9 that prohibits medical marijuana establishments. The vote was 7-0, according to the city clerk's office. Palo Alto police are expected to further study the issue, but right now the city's zoning does not permit medical. zoning does not permit medical marijuana establishments.



17 March 1944 - 28 June 1996

Murray Selkow IN MEMORIAM

A gathering of friends to observe one year of missing this delightful person will be held on Saturday, June 21, 1997. For complete info, call

510/832-6626, 510/522-1914, or 510/444-1417

What's pneu?

by Rob Sabados

n 1981, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported an increased incidence of a previously rare condition, pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), in young gay men. This was the first published report of the disease we call AIDS.

published report of the disease we call AIDS.
While PCP incidence has decreased dramatically for PWAs on effective anti-HIV drugs or effective PCP prophylaxis, AIDS-related pneumonias continue to be leading killers of people with AIDS, even in light of new treatment options.

What's in a name?

What's in a name?

"Unspecified pneumonia" is a rather meaningless catch-all term used to describe a vast array of lung infections by vastly different organisms, including fungal, viral, bacterial, or protozoal agents. While the phrase gives doctors an accepted term that they can write on a diagnostic chart – or autopsy – it provides no clear guidance for treatment, because different causes of pneumonia can require causes of pneumonia can require causes of pneumonia can require very different treatment. For PWAs this is no small mat-

ter. In 1995, Federal CDC re-searchers released a study that looked at the causes of death in Nowed at the causes of death in PWAs and found that while PCP AIDS death decreased dramatically from 1987 to 1992, "unspecified pneumonia" was responsible for nearly one in five AIDS deaths in both years examined.

Finding the cause

Nationally-known San Fran-cisco AIDS physician Dr. Mary Nationaly-known San Francisco AIDS physician Dr. Mary Romeyn is generally unsatisfied with a diagnosis of "unspecified pneumonia," and aggressively attempts to determine the cause of any lung trouble in her patients. Romeyn considers three factors when making a lung infection diagnosis: the patient's overall clinical picture, the clinical presentation of the symptoms, and the results of blood and sputum tests. According to Romeyn, "The best way to deal with a pneumonia is to be very aggressive in attempts to diagnose as well as to cure. You want to look early, look hard, and shoot to kill."

When Romeyn sees a patient complaining of respiratory prob-lems, she first considers their overall clinical picture. This in-cludes the patient's overall health, use of PCP and MAC prophylaxis, and markers such as viral load and CD4 count. While all HIV+ patients are at risk for bacterial pneumonia and TB, patients with lower CD4 counts are at risk for a wider variety of infections. According to Romeyn, when a patient who has, or has had, a low CD4 count reports respiratory symptoms, there are many more

"I would certainly focus on [the possibility of PCP in] anyone who ever had a CD4 count below 200, or even a little above, because at least ten percent of patients have their first PCP event at CD4 counts over 200," according to Romeyn. She uses a patient's lowest CD4 count (nadir) as a guide-line because "an immune system that has reconstituted is not as flexible and resilient as it once

The next thing that Romeyr considers is the patient's clinical picture. This includes the presence or absence of symptoms such as coughing, sputum pro-

duction, and fevers and weight loss. In addition, she listens for unusual lung sounds, particularly ones that only occur in one area of the lung.

Finally, Romeyn orders and

checks the results of chest X-rays and lab tests. While X-rays are an important part of diagnosing lung disorders, 10-40% of patients with PCP and other serious lung infections have normal chest X-rays.

Bacteria check

Romeyn generally asks patients to submit sputum samples three mornings in a row.
Romeyn states that she always does a gram stain (which helps identify the type of bacteria), checks for acid-fast bacteria such as TB, and for MAC and PCP in patients whose CD4 count has ever ACT UP

CD4 count has ever been below 200. Romeyn has found that this approach often allows her to make a definitive diagnosis of the patient's infections. She notes that it is important to check for bacterial infections before starting antibiotics, otherwise the test results will be

misleading.
In addition, she looks at patients' white blood cell counts. Pa-tients with a high WBC are more likely to have bacterial pneumo-nia, while those with a lower WBC tend to have a more aggressive infections.

sive infections.
Finally, Romeyn looks at the amount of oxygen in a patient's blood, particularly after exercise. As one would expect, the more severe the infection, the lower the amount of oxygen in the patient's bloodstream.

bloodstream.

Romeyn urges HIV+ patients to pay attention to the onset of any respiratory symptoms and to aggressively seek treatment because it is "so much easier to cure early than to cure late." She points out that most HIV-related lung infections can be effectively treated when the cause of the infection ed when the cause of the infection is determined. She points to CMV lung infections as a previously un-treatable disease for which effec-tive treatments have been devel-

oped.
"Where we find [CMV] early,"
she says, "people do well."
Romeyn also emphasizes the
importance of using appropriate
PCP prophylaxis. In numerous
studies, prophylactic drugs such
as Septra have demonstrated their as Septra have demonstrated their ability to both prevent PCP and extend survival. Many researchers have found that PCP prophylaxis, particularly Septra, also protects patients against some bacterial pneumonias. Medical literature suggests that some relatively common conditions such as periodontal disease gingitis and odontal disease, gingivitis, and oral lesions have been linked to an increased risk of some types of bacterial pneumonia. As a result, timely dental care many be able to reduce patients' risk of pneumo-

But if you're poor

Despite the advantages of aggressively investigating the cause of HIV-related lung problems cost considerations too often lead doctors to simply treat a lung in-fection as either PCP or bacterial, without going to the effort or ex-pense of determining the actual cause of the infection. That costcutting strategy can have fatal results in some PWAs.

And although cost-cutting by

skipping the diagnostic stage is not considered good medicine by more aggressive AIDS doctors, it does have the approval of govern-ment scientists. In an article pub-lished in the February 1, 1996 edition of Annals of Internal Med-icine, National Institutes of icine, National Institutes of Health researchers suggested that unless "cost-effective diagnostic facilities" are available, patients with seemingly mild lung disease should be presumptively treated with Septra (made by Glaxo Wellcome, also available as a generic TMP/SMX or Bactrim) and an macrolide authiotic such as error macrolide antibiotic such as ery

thromycin.
Unfortunately, use of presumptive treatment in-stead of diagnostic tests such as bronchoscopy (a moderately expensive diagnostic proce-dure in which a physi-cian inserts a tube into the lungs to collect small amounts of fluid and tissue) has

been linked to in-creased mortality. According to a 1995 study (Horner, et al., 1995), Medicaid patients were 40% less likely to undergo a bronchoscopy, 49% less likely to have their pre-sumptive PCP diagnosis con-firmed, and more likely to receive

empirical treatment than patients with insurance.

As a result, Medicaid patients are 73% more likely to die from pneumonia than those with in-

However, when the researcher looked at patients whose diagno-



Dr. Mary Romeyn: "You want to look early, look hard, and shoot to kill."

sis was confirmed by physicians, there was no difference in survival between Medicaid and insurance patients, suggesting that the dif-ference in survival is due not to a difference in access to drug treatments, but in a difference in ac ments, but in a difference in access to diagnostic tests. Because up to half of patients initially diagnosed with PCP actually have another infection, Medicaid patients risk being treated for an infection they don't have (PCP), while the real cause of their illness goes untreated.

goes untreated.

The basis for the different approaches? Physicians stand to get

four to ten times more money for performing bronchoscopies on insured patients than on patients with Medicaid.

with Medicaid.

ACT UP/Golden Gate recommends that people with AIDS insist that their physicians take the time to accurately the cause of lung infections. Simply telling a patient that they have PCP, without conducting available non-invasive tests such as sputum samples (and sometimes invasive tests as well), represents completely inadequate medical care that puts the patient's life potentially at risk.

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Bomb in Gilead

ere's a hell of a way to start a Monday morning: turn on the mass medium of your choice and hear, as millions did on June 9, an FBI/ATF press conference about the bombings in Atlanta. Maybe it was just the lack of coffee at that time of day that made me wary, but I had to wonder as I was listening to it, why now?

Why at the beginning of Gay Pride Month?

The Atlanta bombings The Atlanta bombings happened nearly a year ago, during the Olympics®; then at an abortion clinic in January; and then a lesbian club in Sports then a lesolan club in February. Why are they bringing it back up now, when things have been quiet for three months? Complex

Do they know something that they're not talking about? Are fu-ture incidents suspected? Is this heinous idea already hatching in the minds of bigots, or hatched?

Fortunately, it seems that the FBI and ATF were simply building on their successful capture of Unabomber Ted Kaczynski; for all their high-tech hardware, nothing works like a snitch. And, according to the news reports, they are getting flooded with calls from people who know other people who are bigoted and crazy enough to have written the bomber's nearly illiterate letter. Now, we can only hope the ex-perts can separate the feloniously of-the-mill bigoted and crazy, and get the monsters off the streets be-

get the monsters of the streets be-fore they attack our pride celebra-tions and/or Gay Games. Athletic games through history have been the stage for violence. Some of the first were actually insome of the first were actually inspired by violence, as in the case of Hyacinth getting his skull cracked by Apollo's errant discus (or the wind shift created by the jealous Zephyr).

More recently, the Nazis used the Olympics® to boast their

supposed supremacy, only to have Jesse Owens prove the supposed "Master Race" to be a bit laggard in several

departments.

I recall the '70s terrorism at the Olympics®, for it was a time when I also had a near-life-size Mark Spitz poster departments.

hung up on my bedroom wall. (Gee, d'ya think that was when my parents figured out I was gay?) Anyway, the horrifying sight of athletes getting gunned down in the name of some Zionist/Palestinian conflict made me cry buckets. Still does.

In a gay context, we have the classic tragedy in Patricia Nell Warren's *The Front Runner*, the warrens The Front Runner, the first gay book I ever bought, I admit it. I cried for its tragic hero, Billy Sive, who died on the Olympic® track after being shot by a sniper.

There is a reason why so many of us bought Billy Sive's story, in every sense. Not only for its hero-

THE HUMBING'S IN SANDY SPRINGS IN AND MIDTOWN WERE CARRIED DUT
BY UNITS OF THE ARMY OF BOD.

THE ABORTION WAS THE MARDER
DE THE FIRST OBVICE. THE MURDER
J.S. MILLION CHILDREN EVERY YEAR
WILL NOT BE "TOLERATED" THOSE
WHO PARTICIPATE IN ANYWAY IN
THE MURDER OF CHILDREN MAY
BETARGETED FOR ARACK. THE
ATACK THEAE FORE SERVES AS
A WARNING: ANYONE IN OR AROUND
FACILITIES THAT MURDER CHILDREN
MAY HECOME VICTIMS OF
RETRIBUTION. THE NEXT
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or parazitions and all those who push there sigil angend

THE MURBER OF CHILDREN AND IBENE THE POLICY OF UNDODLY PREVERSION THATS DESTROYING OUR PREVERSION THATS DESTROYING OUR ALL FACILITIES AND PEREOMEC!! OF THE FEDERAL BOVERNMENT.

THE ATTACK IN MOTOWN WAS AIMED AT THE SODDMITE SAR (THE OTHERSIOE). WE WILL TARDET SODDMITES, THERE OR GANIZATIONS AND ALL THOSE WHO PUSH THERE ABENDA.

JUBERTH TO THE NEW WORLD THER!

"Ungodly preversion" [sic]: The Army of God bombers are targeting, among others, "sodomites, there [sic] organizations, and all those who push there [sic] agenda."

ism and romance, but also beism and romance, but also be-cause it reflected our own pain of knowing we live in the proverbial cross-hairs of too many would-be snipers. We believed it could happen; many of us suspected it would happen. All those years of being targets in our homes and schools made us all aware that some sick puppies out there can't seem to let a space just be idealistically devoted to peace and brother- and sisterhood.

And that is what the Gay Olymp – whoops, Gay Games – in 1998 should be. I mean, gee, in New York in '94, nobody even got mugged!
Part of me thinks a terrorist at-

tack couldn't happen in Amsterdam, and for this I am glad that my first entry as an Olympic® athlete will take place on foreign soil. I feel a slight sense of relief knowing that the only dangers I might incur will be self-incurred, or assisted, on the mat, and not fear the sine rides of terropids.

from the sniper rifle of a terrorist.

But then we must remember that Europe actually does terrorthat Europe actually does terror-ism rather well, particularly the Northern Irish – who placed a bomb about 20 feet away from the plate glass front of a gay bar in London last year; thanks a lot. Oh, and the French and the Algerians: they don't get along. And Croatia and Serbia, aren't they still at it? Then there's the Chechen-Russian Then there's the Chechen-Russian conflict; is that over?

Bomb supplies at the market

But let's say some weirdo de-cides to steal our thunder and make his statement by usurping our joy. Would we be able to incur the sharpshooting techniques of international rifle competitors, chase them down with tracksters, break their necks with Judo chops? by certain authorities.

What is scarier about the fu-ture is not that there are evil people out there trying to destroy us. We know that. They have us as a reason. We are all Billy Sive.

reason. We are all Billy Sive.

This is what we have to consider, not in Amsterdam, but in November of 1997, when the Federation of Gay Games will meet in Denver to accept bids from suit 'n' tie "consultants" from Dallas and Atlanta and Seattle and Montreal for Gay Gay Gay (2018). for Gav Games 2002

To the suits, and their municipal clients, we're tourist attractions. But the ugly truth is that some of the cities vying for this multi-million dollar event are multi-minion dollar event are places that would prefer to turn the clock backward to the days when people like us got flogged. And not for fun. Some of these cities only recently enacted antigay legislature, or only recently made a feeble attempt to remove

such legislature.

Only recently in some of these cities vying for our dollars and our athletic and cultural presence, and I am speaking primarily of American cities, some of these

All those years of being targets in our homes and schools made us all aware that some sick puppies out there can't seem to let a space be idealistically devoted to peace and brother- and sisterhood.

They'd probably sue us if we

It would be more disgusting to from the belief along the lines of, "See, you homos should-n't go around parading yourselves as athletes. It's your own fault," It would disgust me more to see Ted Koppel hosting *Nightline* with a foaming-at-the-mouth christian fundamentalist excoriating us for even existing – to provide balance, doncha know, to the media presentation of us being annihilated.

This could happen. Again, I

The bombing of the lesbian bar in Atlanta wasn't the first in-cident of its kind. In Seattle, it was cident of its kind. In Seattle, it was skinheads and pipe bombs. In America, the ingredients for a bomb can be purchased at a supermarket. In America, the number of militia groups has increased twofold in the last year. In America, there are 2,000,000 guns and 4,000 gun murders per year. These are considered good odds cities have a pretty lousy record when it comes to human rights of the homosexual kind, and these same cities, particularly the ones of a Southern sort, have a rather high incidence of homosexual deaths by gunshot, and car chase, and bombings.

What's scary is knowing that these places are unwelcome for queers, and that we are always an xcuse for planned and pointed

what's even scarier is knowing there are people out there who will do something violent for no reason at all. Or almost nothing.

A recent study proved that almost all homophobes are deeply closeted homosexuals. Examples of this can be found in the form of terrorists, but also members of the armed forces and certain police departments of this and other

The only thing scarier than a closet case is a closet case with a rocket in his pocket. Or a bomb in his backpack. ▼

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Pat Christen

■ page 1

from investment dividends and other income.

SFAF Board Chair Paul Wisotzky, who is openly gay and is living with AIDS, staunchly defended the board's action surrounding Christen's salary. Her performance is reviewed annually, he said, and the 19-member volunteer board unanimously an unteer board unanimously ap-proved the 1995-96 pay hike. He said that he has been involved with Christen's salary since be-coming a board member three

years ago.

"This issue is challenging for the board," Wisotzky told the B.A.R. "There are a number of people with AIDS on the board people with AIDS on the board who do not make much money. But there is a clear consensus in support of Pat. As someone living with AIDS, I can say the board tries to be as sensitive as possible on this issue, but it's not the only concern. Let me say again that there is a clear consensus."

Wisotzky said he does not view the 10.9 percent pay raise that put

Christen's salary at \$148,794 for 1995-96 as being excessive, "based on her exceptional and brilliant leadership in the community and in this country, as well as the market data."

\$200,000 by 2000?

\$200,000 by 2000?

Given the five-year trend of increases in Christen's salary, Wisotzky was asked whether her annual pay would top \$200,000 by the year 2000. He quickly commented on that, saying, "I wouldn't look at the increases as a trend."

During the interview, Wisotzky several times expressed the fact that the SFAF board's committee looked at market data of other AIDS service organizations and healthcare nonprofits. He stressed the board's feeling that Christen's salary should be in

He stressed the board's feeling that Christen's salary should be in line with those paid to directors of similarly sized nonprofits.

"We're moving in a direction to make sure Pat's salary is commensurate with her peers. We definitely feel like this year we have moved her in with her peers," Wisotzky said.

But he cautioned, "I can't say what's going to hapnen, We're in what's going to hapnen, We're in the cautioned," I can't say what's going to hapnen, We're in the cautioned what's going to hapnen we're in the cautioned what's going to hapnen we're in the cautioned what's going to hapnen we're in the cautioned what we want the cautioned when the cautioned we're we're

what's going to happen. We're in

a very challenging time. One of the beauties of the SFAF is the ability for it to change and change quickly."

Predictably, AIDS activists ex-

Predictably, AIDS activists ex-pressed anger over Christen's lat-est reported salary; the issue has been hotly debated for several months locally and in national publications.

publications.

"The top management of the foundation always spell AIDS with many dollar signs, because for them, AIDS is a career, not a crisis," barked AIDS watchdog Michael Petrelis. "If Christen and her colleagues have any shame ever their outgraceus ealwise." over their outrageous salaries, they will immediately cut their pay in half and apply that money to pay rental subsidies for people with AIDS."

Other agencies

The SFAF is among the largest AIDS service organizations in the country; there are no others in the Bay Area with as high an annual budget. But among those in other cities with similar annual budgets. the B.A.R. has found that Chris ten makes more than some and just slightly less than other execu-

tive directors.

The Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington DC, for example, lists its annual budget at approximately \$16.2 million in their 1995 Form 990. Jim Graham, the executive director, made \$137,874 in

Hybrid and the control of the contro James Loyce, Jr., the executive di-rector, earned approximately \$150,000, Carrier said. With ben-efits, Loyce's salary was \$155,900, Carrier said.

Carrier said.

Christen does make slightly more than Mark Robinson, the executive director of Gay Men's Health Crisis, Inc. (GMHC) in New York City, the oldest AIDS service organization in the country. According to the GMHC 1995 Form 990, the agency had an annual budget of \$28 million, and Robinson's reported salary was \$144.782

'Incredible leader'

Wisotzky said that in the last couple of years, the board has felt Christen has done an outstanding

job. "We feel she's been an incredible leader locally and nationally. She's provided stability and an incredible emphasis on quality. We feel she's a professional who needs to be compensated."

He said the board's process is a thoughtful one that in recent

thoughtful one that in recent years has been led by Kathy Burke, a vice president at Bank of

Burke, a vice president at Bank of America.

"The process is professional, the board has standards, and we talk with staff and community members," Wisotzky said.

Christen herself had little to say about her salary, except that the board sets it and reviews her performance annually. "I don't have a contract, nor do I want

one.
"The decision is wholly within their purview," she told the B.A.R. Other top paid administrators are also reviewed annually. Their salaries aren't tied to Christen's. Additionally, Christen said that when the travels on foundation when she travels on foundation business, she receives no extra money other than expenses being paid. Any fees she is paid for speaking engagements go back to the foundation.

COMMUNITY **HEALTH LISTINGS**

Send health resource listings to:

Roberto Friedman Community Health Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

ACT UP/Golden Gate Self-empowerment for AIDS treatment option Gen'l mtgs. Tues., 7:30pm; treatment issues, every other Thurs., 7:30pm, 592 Castro. 252-9200.

ACT UP/SF

Does not accept drug company donations, committed to direct action. Contact: 1388 Haight, #218, SF 94117. 522-2907.

Acupuncture
The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

AIDS Benefits Counselors
Professional review and counseling about benef
for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake
scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Bereavement Group
For those who have lost their partner to AIDS.
Thursdays, 6-7:30pm. Registration and info: 750-6800 x21680.

AIDS Community Research Consortium Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites lo-cated in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials avail-able, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia CARE Unit At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impair-ments. Call Stephan Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund
Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project Support groups for caregivers, friends & lovers of those with HIV/AIDS; women only, and mixed groups; free. Info: Mike, 502-6101.

AIDS/HIV Nightline
Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel
Assists persons w/HIV on legal problems, incl.
wills, powers of attorney, benefits, more. Free or
reduced fee. 291-5454.

AIDS Memorial Grove Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Project of the East Bay HIV education & prevention programs, case man-agement, emotional & practical support for peo-ple in Alameda Co. 651 20th St., Oakland. (510) 834-8181.

AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group Meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 294

AIDS Support Group 2+ years since diagnosis. No charge, fees paid by Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Resource Group. Thursdays, 1pm. Call Gail Winston for intake: 552-7517.

AIDS Treatment Education Network Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strate-gies. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project
Offers family counseling, support groups and events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 436-9000.

ARIS
AIDS resources, information and services of
Santa Clara county, drop-in support group meetings. 408-293-ARIS.

Asians & Pacific Islanders with HIV eekly support group, activities, retreats, treat-nt info. 575-3939 x336, API Wellness Center

Baker Places Provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bay Positives Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongo-ing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Baylands Family Circle Non-profit group of families headed by gay, les-bian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for so-cial. Call Tom, 858-2468.

Bereavement Groups
For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy Actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 431-2ACT xBOY.

Buddhist AIDS Project Provides info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

Center for Special Problems Groups for people with HIV: drop-in for women, women's therapy group, co-ed drop-in and psycho educational group. 1700 Jackson. Call for info: 292-1500.

Chemically Sensitive & HIV Support group forming for those allergic to per-fumes and chemicals. 922-1348.

Clinica Esperanza
The HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health
Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services, Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Community United Against Violence Begins training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

Connections
Is a confidential, one-on-one peer support focus
ing on HIV prevention by and for gay men of
color, free. Call 356-8114.

Continuum HIV Day Services An adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Medical services, counseling, therapy, meals, ac-tivities. 241-5500.

Counseling Services for Drinking Drivers Groups for gay men who are court- or DMV-man-dated to attend a multiple offender program. Chemical Awareness & Treatment Services: 241-

Crystal Meth Anonymous Meetings every: Wed., 8pm at 18th St. Service Mtg. Place (15th & Market); Sat., 9pm, and Sun., 6pm at 529 Clayton. Hotline: 267-5933.

Deaf AIDS Center
At UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to
those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Courseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan.
476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

Diabetics
Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

Dolores Street Comm. Services Seeks volunteers to help homeless in shelters. Contact David Rodriguez, 282-6209.

Drug Detox Program
Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care,

counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

Eden I & R Information & referral for AIDS/affordable hous-ing, HIV service providers in Alameda Co. (510) 537-2600.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services Support groups, emotional & practical buddy pro-gram, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 572-9702.

Eureka Acupuncture & Yoga Center Offers yoga, massage, low cost acupuncture. 301 Eureka. 648-2215.

FABRIC
A support/social group for gay, lest transpender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

Filipino Task Force on AIDS Provides prevention, education and direct care services to Fil-ipinos and others affected by HIV/AIDS. 1540 Market, Suite 325. Info: 703-9880.

Galeemas Service organization sup-porting gay and lesbian employees of Pacific Bell. Membership info: call 747-9880.

Gay Dads
Gather to talk about your kids, lovers, ex's, etc
Joel Wechsler, MFCC. Alternative Family Project. 436-9000.

Gay/Lesbian Christian Scientists Sharing support, insight, metaphysical science. Meets 2nd Monday of month. Info: Craig, 281-0636.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service Seeks gay-sensitive law students as volunteer law clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oak-land. Info: 621-3900.

Gay and Lesbian Tennis Federation
Offers activities for players of all abilities, membership mtgs. monthly. Info: Donna at 282-2453
or e-mail dmckinsf@aol.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic
Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every
Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for
women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7pm.
239 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair
accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238
for disabled).

G40+ Club A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project Free, confidential HIV antibody testing, Wed. 12-4, 5-8pm. Case management, support groups, AIDS prevention and education. 330 Ellis, Suite 518. 567-2273.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics'
Drug Detox
Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. 529 Clayton. Hector, 565-1909.

Healing Alternatives Foundation Maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products, open Tues.-Sat. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053. HIV Advocacy Network Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Foun-dation: phone/fax tree action alerts, government lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter, 487-3034.

HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV-men, men with AIDS, partners and sur-wivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199, 1853 Market St.

HIV Care
Offers the latest clinical trials from the AmFAR community-based trial network and private Industry, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Negative Support Group
For gay and bisexual men offered by AIDS Health
Project; free drop-in, time-limited and ongoing
support groups. Info: 476-3902.

HIV Nutrition Discussion/Support Group Ongoing monthly meetings at city clinics, call for info: CARE Program Nutritionists, 554-9121.

HIV Positive Drop-in Group Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka 863-4434.

Community Health

HIV Positive Youth Group
18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm.
ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite
100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1rst Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison,

Immune Enhancement

Immune Enhancement
Project
Treats persons with HIV-re
lated illness using a program of traditional Chiness medicine and herbal
supplements. Info: 2528711.

Iris Center

Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project Counseling, support groups, case management, more for Jewish people with HIV and their loved ones. 561-1241.

Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program (LYFE) Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian/ gay/ bisexual/ transgender youth. 565-7681.

Lesbian/Gay Christian Scientists Meets 2nd Monday of each month for healing, in-sight and support. Info: 281-0636. or (800) 280-6653.

LesBian Social Group For lesbians and blsexual women in Tri-Cittes/So. Alameda Co. Thurs., 7pm at The Edge, 39160 State, Fremont. 790-2887.

Linea de Ambiente Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi Latinos regarding immigra-tion, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Lati-na de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC's After School
Drop-in for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender
and questioning youth, 18 and under. Daily, 36pm, M-F. 123 Collingwood. 703-6150.

Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics STD testing, treatment; HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

Meditation Sessions
For caregivers, people with HIV, significant others, free. Tues., Thurs., Fri. at 10:15am. Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. 863-2507.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault Operates sexual assault hotline for men, Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

Pacific Center Counseling services for queer youth & adults, slid-ing scale. 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. (510) 548-8283.

Pacific Center Lesbian support group, lesbian couples therapy group, twentysomething group, and youth group (23 and under): call for times. 1250 Pine, Suite 301, Walnut Creek. (510) 939-7711.

Paradigm Models for Enhancing Life Near Death, serves the terminally ill, free 10-week support group in SF. Call for info: 522-9192.

The Positive Center Free weekly workshops in acupuncture, nutrition, more for Marin CO. residents w/HIV. 535 San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo. 456-8065.

Positive Living for Us Free weekend seminar for recently-tested HIV +. Info: Alfredo, 356-8129.

Positive Resource Provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment op-portunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Project HOPE
Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bi-sexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Protease Inhibitor Support Group Forming to explore complex issues of new HIV treatment protocols. No fee, weekly, ongoing, preregistration required. Hospice by the Bay. Info: Mike, 626-5900.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida Provides peer counseling, legal assistance, work-shops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Psychic Horizons Free introductory meditation class Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. 2240 Geary Blvd. 346-7906.

PWAs Undergoing Infusion Support group for men, free. Tues. afternoons. Call Carol or Jim at 552-2022.

Q Action
Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmis sion among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

Qi Gong for Health \$1 per class. Mon., Wed., 5:30pm. 50 Oak St., 3rd fl. 255-0265. Quan Yin Healing Arts Center Acupuncture, Chinese herbal therapies, massage for those with HIV, Yoga and ChI Gong classes. Call for schedule. 1748 Market. 861-4964.

Radical Women Business mtg, 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

Sadhana Brothers Gay men's Hindu/Yogic (ellowship, meets monthly for chanting, meditation, informal discussion. Call Ed, 647-4388.

Senior Central
Provides info, referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors, free and confidential services.
360 4th St. 777-3233.

STD Check-ups Free testing site given by City Clinic, 2nd Thurs. of each month, 8:30-10:30pm. Blow Buddies, 933 Harrison, 863-4323.

Women's Action Coalition
An open alliance of women committed to direct
action on issues affecting the rights of all women.
WAC meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30pm (women
only), 1360 Mission St., Suite 200. WAC Hot-line: 255-652.

Women's Cancer Resource Center Support, resource & advocacy group for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, familie-doctors, Provides individual pere counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, Jeal workshop & more (510) 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

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Jack 821-4015 or

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LEG. NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 214112
The following person(s) are doing business as STAT SYSTEMS, 88 Howard St. #2211, San Francisco, CA 94105: Stanley D. Becker, 88 Howard St. #2211, San Francisco, CA 94105. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 11, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Stanley Becker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 16, 1997.
May 22, 29, June 5, 12, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214285

STATEMENT FILE NO. 214285
The following person(s) are doing business of HURCH STREET BED & BREAK-FAST, 325 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1718. Winchael John Jendritza, 325 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1718. John Warren Marshall, 325 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1718. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 1, 1997. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed Michael John Jendritza. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 23, 1997.

1997. May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 214237
The following person(s) are doing business as THE LIVING EARTH HEALTH STORE, 8139 Irving St, San Francisco, CA 94122: Teresa L.S. Wong: 406 Arguello Blvd, San Francisco, CA 9418. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 21, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Teresa Wong. This statefient was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 22, 1997.
May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NU. 2.14211
The following person(s) are doing business
as SING SING CAL (WITH SPECTERS
SOLUTION) PLAN B, 195 7th St. #403,
San Francisco, CA 94103: Julius Norman
Joseph (AKA Johnny Golightly), 195 7th
St. #403, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the istrantis; commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 21, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Julius Norman Joseph. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 21, 1997.

May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 214181
The following person(s) are doing business as VITALINE, LIC, 5000 Fulton St. #2, San Francisco, CA 94121: Vitaline, Lic (CA), 5000 Fulton St. #2, San Francisco, CA 94121. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 20, 1977. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Igor Cheruas, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 20, 1997.

20, 1997. May 29, June 5, 11, 19, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214520 STATEMENT FILE NO. 214520
The following person(s) are doing business as AMERICANO, INC. 6 Joost Ave., San Francisco, CA 94131: Americano, Inc, (CA), 6 Joost Ave., San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above ficitious business name on the date of June 3, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Saleh M. Hassanein, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 3, 1997. 3, 1997. June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214421 STATEMENT FILE NO. 214421
The following person(s) are doing business as BAY AREA RELOCATION SERVICES, 1929 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Hartford Properties line., (CA), 1929 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 15, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Linda L. Servis, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 30, 1997. 1997. June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214343

The following person(s) are doing business as VENTURE OUT, 575 Pierce St. #604, San Francisco, CA 94117: Robert Alan Driscoll, 575 Pierce St. #604, San Fran-

cisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of M/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert A. Driscoll. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 28, 1997. June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214346 STATEMENT FILE NO. 214346 The following person(s) are doing business as DENISE'S NUTRITIONAL CONSULT-ING, 28A Nes St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Denise Buzbuzian, 1648 Greve St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictious business name on the date of April 25, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Denise Buzbuzian. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 28, 1997. June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214433 STATEMENT FILE NO. 214433 The following person(s) are doing business as HERBAL VITA HEALTH STORT, 1839 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122: Teres a Wong, 406 Arquello Bivd., San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above flictitious business name on the date of May 30, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Teresa Wong. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 30, 1997. 1997. June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214330 STATEMENT FILE NO. 214330 The following person(s) are doing business as BLACK DIAMOND ENTERPRISES, 176 San Carlos St., San Francisco 94110. Walkerlene Grenland, 176 San Carlos St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above flictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Walkerlene Grenland. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 27, 1997. June 5, 11, 19, 26, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214680

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2.14680
The following person(s) are doing business as PILIPINO PAMAYANI, 250 Kearny St., #500, San Francisco, CA 94108: Yelle V. Whitehawk, 250 Kearny St. #500, San Francisco, CA 94108: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 9, 1997. This business is conducted by an Individual. Signed Velle V. Whitehawk. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 9, 1997.

9, 1997. June 11, 19, 26, July 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 214573
The following person(s) are doing business as DRUM & COMPANY, 151 Vermont St., San Francisco, CA 94103. John Drum, Jr., 2113 Bush St., San Francisco, CA 94115.
Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business ame on the date of 1982. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed John Drum, Jr. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 4, 1997.
June 11, 19, 26, July 3, 1997.

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FEBRUARY 1997

The 21st Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

features strong films on everything from porn, hermaphroditism, Southern dykes, and gay life.

David Del Tredici brings 'Gay Life' to Davies Hall



High and low meet in Lichtenstein show at the Legion of Honor.



BAY A REA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAINM

Vol. 27 • No. 24 • 12 June 1997

by Gary Morris

ay culture is at an historical turning point, caught between assimilation and the need to maintain an individual, oppositional voice. Wedding bands are suddenly threatening to replace cock rings; rosy monogamy is beginning to unseat anonymous sex; queers continue to join a military that doesn't know what to do with them; and the general "Stepfordization" of homosexuality looms large. Assimilation has its benefits and pleasures; prov-ing we're "just like anybody else" implies a whole host of legal and social freedoms. Still, are we re-ally ready to reject the cultish thrills of the gay ghetto for the satisfaction of saying we're just as conventional and middlebrow as our boring traight parishbore." straight neighbors?

Nowhere is this conundrum more evident

than in the images of gays and lesbians in advertising, movies, and television. Like other minorities, queers historically have fashioned much of the aesthetic life of American society, far out of proportion to our numbers.

And how were we repaid for these efforts?

With legal sanctions, social disapproval, and ongoing insidious attempts to devalue our

lives by controlling our images. Surrounded by decades of cinematic portrayals of psycholesbos, pedophilic faggots, ampiric trannies, and simpering, evil queens, it's no wonder queers are finding vampiric trannies,

solace in acceptance, no matter what the price. On the other hand,

there are reassuring signs that the elusive "gay sensibility" is mak

ing serious inroads into mass culture, without the kinds of

260 visions of queer life

in 21st Lesbian and Gay

Film Festival

enormous compromises implied by assimilation. A more cynical analysis would say that since business rules America, the queer community has

simply been pegged as a niche market, to which corporate media-makers must pander. Major studios now vie for gay

Major studios now vie for gay projects; even Disney has a subsidiary, Miramax, that routinely releases gay and lesbian "product." Britain's Channel Four is dispersing sensitive, realistic gay imagery to venues worldwide. Events like the Ellen coming-out show proved not only that it's possible to triumph over right-wing threats of boycott and brimstone, but also that large numbers of straight people are willing to watch an upfront lesbian work out her identity problems on national television. Whether pushed by a business agenda or our own increasing insistence on visibility. America may be getting used to its de-

pushed by a business agenda or our own increasing insistence on visibility, America may be getting used to its deviants — in other words, growing up.

The San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival has survived its own growing pains to reach a milestone — this year is its 21st. The SFILGFF has always been a crucial player in rescuing gay imagery from mainstream manipulators. Like most festivals, this one has a double agenda: matching films with distributors, and showcasing the range of artistic expression in the gay film community. Unlike most festivals, however, the SFILGFF is also about a specific kind of visibility and assertiveness: it's an arena that peribility and assertiveness; it's an arena that permits queer voices to resonate in a culture that hasn't always allowed them to be heard. This year, these voice are articulating the wide array of possibilities open to a community clearly in transition

page 44



gay Inteleweekend

'it could blow more than just your mind' club universe & pleasuredome

by Chris Culwell and Pithy Galore

rue queens won't fail to notice the camp standout amidst the 260 works being offered up in this year's enormous Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Although Broadway Damage, about two showtune loving fags who try to make it in New York, hardly sounds original, the casting is. Mara Hobel, so memorable as energetic, floor-scrubbing Christina in Mommie Dearest, stars as Cynthia, good friend of the Sondheim and Webber thespians. We don't know much about Broadway Damage, but a reliable source says Mara is delightfully over-the-top in her role, and that her new zaftig look is a big improvement over the runtish aspect she sported in Mommie Dearest.



Mara-please!

Mara, we've learned from the film's press materials, hasn't been exactly absent from the acting scene since Faye Dunaway cracked a can of Comet across her back in that timeless portrait of a diva in distress. Among other things, she made a thriller with **Michael Caine**, starred with **Eve** Arden in a Broadway flop called Moose Murders, and enjoyed a recurring role on Roseanne. She also owns a production company, Rising Star Productions.

ing Star Productions.

Broadway Damage plays June
27 (7:30 p.m.) at the Roxie Cinema. Prior to the screening,
Christina — oops, we meant
Mara — will make a special appearance (6 p.m.) at Harvey's
(500 Castro Street), where she will
autograph pictures (and perhaps
one or two cans of Comet) and
talk about her fabulous career. one of two cans of Comet) and talk about her fabulous career. Those of us who want to know what it was *really* like working with Faye D. will be first in line.

The squall of music

We've been having a grand time at Out There reading Nor-man Lebrecht's 'Who Killed Classical Music? (Birch Lane Press, \$24.95), a controversial expose of the corporate politics and behind-the-scenes powermongering in the world of classical music.



Soprano Kathleen Battle

been reading the book for anything but serious reasons. All we care about is the dish, which this

care about is the dish, which this tome is full of.

Some of the most scintillating pages are devoted to that singing witch Kathleen Battle, who was fired from the Metropolitan Opera in 1994 for throwing her sulfur-spewing broom around one too many times during rehearsal. We never used to believe all the vicious stories about the appropriately named Battle until we read Lebrecht's book and learned about such things as Battle's: refusing to "share refusing to "share Out

transport with other singers," "disother singers,""dis-missing the stretch limo that was taking her to the Clinton Inaugu-ration because it wasn't long enough," "pushing [conductor] Trevor Pinnock off the podium" during a rehearsal, and "refusing to sing at Lincoln Center until her dressing room was provided with a bigger cake of soap." (We hear that when the soprano last visited that when the soprano last visited San Francisco, she had a tantrum because the water in her bathtub

because the water in her bathtub wasn't hot enough. Later, when it was too hot, she began lobbing toiletries at the help.)
But big personalities are only half the story in Who Killed Classical Music? Other tales between these covers are just plain twisted. Though Lebrecht doesn't always name name name sow know exactly. name names, you know exactly what poster-boy perv he has in mind when he writes: "It is widely known on the classical circuit that a certain top conductor has a compulsion for sex with **underage boys**. He has been arrested more than once and was banned more than once and was banned for many years from a major capital because of it." Later, Lebrecht draws a deliberately vague parallel between this unnamed catamite-hungry maestro and hefty Metropolitan Opera conductor **James Levine**, whose unshakable power at the Met started to unravel in the mid-'90s after several important board members

learned of "extra-mural activities that, according to *Time* magazine, involved 'liaisons with people of every age and hue.'" Oh, my. *How* shocking.

Rubber is forever

It's been a while since we've heard from that drivelous LA chatterbox, The Oily Avian One. Oily's been out of commission ever since that nasty crack-smok-ing incident in Compton left him with a paralyzing facial tic. Still, though barely able to speak, Oily called the other day to give us the skinny on what's going on down in Crappywood.

Batman director Joel Schu-

macher is rumored to be a big friend of Dorothy, but no one's ever been able to nail him on it. In a recent interview with **Ingrid**Sischy in *Interview*, however, the director provocatively admitted that he's more than a little aware of the obvious homoerotic qualities suggested by the closeness of **Batman** and **Robin** in his Caped Crusader films. Unfortunately, the director was just as quick to admit that the film is as "heteroerotic as it is homoerotic." We like Joel's

two-step, but we just can't ig-nore some of the ru-mors we keep hearing about the director, like how he personally supervised ago-nizing, day-long fit-ting sessions with Batman stars George Clooney and Chris O'Donnell, and, of

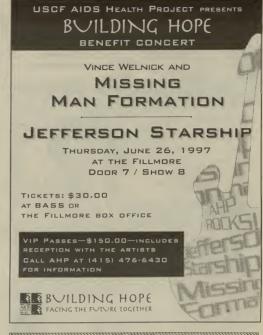
course, that oft-re-peated one about ing Val Kilmer's old rubber bat-suit in his bedroom.

Performance anxiety

Oily has just been ecstatic over mors that heartthrob **Keanu** Reeves has been spotted around Santa Monica in the company of a scruffy, skateboard-carrying wag. Of course, Oily knows it means nothing, and he's trying desperately not to make anything of it. But it's not been easy in light of the intriguing rumor that Keanu pulled out of the Speed remake because he didn't want to work again with Sandra Bullock, who apparently put lots of pres-sure on the actor to, ahem, per-

form.

Another ballbreaker is Melrose Place star Heather Locklear, who Oily says is set to play a dying heroin addict "with dirty, flithy hair" in her next film, Double Tap. Though the soap star will actually play a narcotics cop who merely poses as a heroin addict, there are doubless millions who could are doubtless millions who could more easily believe her as a junkie than a law enforcer. The 35-yearold actress is also preggers these days, so we hope she avoids any strenuous shooting-up sequences, lest she have one of those nasty miscarriages, like Liza Minnelli





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Gallic glitter

by Robert Julian

res gay Pierre and Gilles are French artists who have pio-neered their unique photographic images into a minor cause célèbre. Catherine Deneuve, Rupert Everett, and other luminaries waltz Everett, and other luminaries waltz through this documentary, singing the praises of the artists referred to in the subtitles as "P&G." Their oeuvre is somewhat hard to describe, but it relies heavily on glitter, makeup, set design, leather accouterment, and cultural iconography that ranges from Biblical themes to Hindu actresses. Their photos possess a vaguely Robert Mapplethorpe-meets-the-Cockettes aesthetic, but to the uninitiated, they will simply be kitsch. It may help to recall that France is the country that adores Jerry Lewis. In Pierre & Gilles, Low Stories, the art and lives of P&G are documented by director Michael Aho in an outrageously queer fashion — this rageously queer fashion — this film simply screams.

On the same program is Francois Ozon's Summer Dress, a short subject that revolves around two scantject that revolves around two scantilly clad French gay boys, a beach, a strange girl, and a dress. The unforgettable opening has one of the boys vamping barefoot to a French version of Cher's "Bang Bang (he shot me down)." To say more would spoil the fun, but this double bill is a Francophile's delight.

Pierre & Gilles, Love Stories plays with Summer Dress June 22 (10 p.m.) at the Victoria



Pierre and Gilles





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The hermaphrodite connection

'Hermaphrodites With Attitude'

by Robert Julian

n a bold and courageous move, Frameline is presenting four documentary films about her-

documentary films about hermaphrodites assembled under the program title, "Hermaphrodites With Attitude." If the potential viewing audience ignores this event, dismissing it as irrelevant or freakish, they will miss one of the most engrossing and important screenings of this year's lesbian and gay film festival.

I Am What I Feel to Be is the longest film in the program. This Swiss documentary, directed by Roland Sanchez, is filmed in the Bronx, the Dominican Republic and at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. The primary subjects of the film speak Spanish, and most of the film is subtitled in English with occasional Swiss-German titles that identify some of the individuals and their selections with the Chemical Swiss-German titles that identify some of the individuals and their selections with the Chemical Swiss-German titles that identify some of the individuals and their selections with the Chemical Swiss-German titles that identify some of the individuals and their selections with the Chemical Swiss-German titles that identify some of the individuals and their selections with the Chemical Swiss-German titles that identify some of the individuals and their some of the individuals and their relationships to each other. Some confusion results, but not enough to detract from the power of Sanchez's work, which unfolds

Sanchez's work, which unfolds like a mystery.

Two brothers in the Bronx are shown discussing their new life in the United States and recalling their childhood days when they used to dress as girls in the Dominican Republic. Sanchez's camera follows one of the brothers as he returns home to the village of Bahraona to meet his family—his parents, brothers and sisters, and his wife. As it turns out, there are ten children in this family; four of them are hermaphrodites.

Sanchez intercuts his footage of the hermaphrodites, their fam-

of the hermaphrodites, their families and friends with an interview with a Johns Hopkins professor (more strange than any of the hermaphrodites), who explains the medical causes of hermaphrodities.

the medical causes of hermaphroditism. Although the hermaphrodite phenomenon manifests in several different ways, the professor concerns himself primarily with one type of hermaphroditism—the one personified by the four siblings in the film.

The mother of the children offers the most moving and sensible assessment of her children's condition. She advises them to accept themselves just as they are. "God made you this way," she observes, "and God doesn't make mistakes." She also adds, with pride, that her hermaphrodite sons have accomplished more than her sons who plished more than her sons who ere born without gender ambi-

In this family, the hermaphrodites are raised as girls, but some choose to identify as males after choose to identify as males after puberty. Their choices, and the generally supportive environment they were raised in, make a fascinating story. In this instance, the relative poverty of the family makes surgical intervention to alter their genitalia an impossibility, and by the end of the film, the viewer realizes how fortunate this is. The hermaphrodites do not appear androgynous, yet their look pear androgynous, yet their look is both male and female — and it is completely natural. The real heartbreaker in this equation is how comfortable the hermaphro-dites are with themselves, but how this comfort level is diminished by the reactions and expectations by the reactions and expectation of the society in which they live.

Modest aspirations

Hermaphrodites Speak! is a 30-minute video documentary

produced by the Intersex Society of North America as documentation of the first international meeting of the first international meeting of this organization (which prefers the term "interesxual" to "hermaphrodite"). Relaxed, informal and very modest in its aspirations, the video follows a gathering of ten intersexuals who are filmed sitting in a circle outdoors. The microphone is passed back and forth among the attendees as they offer insight into their own lives and what happened to them as a result of their gender ambiguity.

This group, whose parents had the dubious benefit of Western medical practices, actually seems worse off than the impoverished hermaphrodites from the Do-

worse of that he impoverished hermaphrodites from the Do-minican Republic. Misguided sur-gical corrections, implemented without the consent of the chil-dren, leave several of the members full of anger and a sense of betrayal. But coming together for this conference, each person experiences the relief of finally discovering that there are others just like

them. It's hard to imagine a single

them. It's hard to imagine a single homosexual who will not be able to relate to this experience. The heart of the hermaphrodite dilemma is succinctly stated by one of the attendees. "The problem is not with the child, it is with the attitudes toward the child." Two short films, Endscope and Shotgun, are also shown as part of "Hermaphrodites With Attitude," a program which should be mandatory viewing for every physician and medical student in the world. This complex and fascinating subject has been hidden cinating subject has been hidden and misunderstood for too long. Every child and every family that has faced this challenge on a per-sonal level has been poorly served by the long-standing conspiracy of silence, and it seems entirely of silence, and it seems entirely appropriate that a gay and lesbian film festival should break new

ground in this area.

Those who might question the inclusion of this program in such a film festival might find the fol-

page 50 ▶



Still from Endoscope, playing as part of "Hermaphrodites with Attitude.





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Jizz babies

Ronnie Larsen's 'Shooting Porn'

by Robert Julian

ou might as well buy a tick-et, because this one isn't going to turn up on PBS. Ronnie Larsen's *Shooting Porn* is destined to be a festival favorite for gay boys — even those who don't rent porn. Larsen, who also wrote and directed the play Making Porn, seems to have developed something of an obsession for this topic. But Shooting Porn is not a film version of Larsen's play; it's a documentary — and a good one
— that looks at the making of gay
male porn flicks from the inside.

male porn flicks from the inside.

Larsen allows the actors, directors, reviewers and merchandisers of pornography to speak for themselves as his camera follows them from the initial filming in Los Angeles, through the promotion and marketing process, and into hallowed Las Vegas convention halls for an adult video awards ceremony. The featured porn stars are Blue Blake, Bryan Kidd, Adam Rom, Hunter Scott, Rip Stone and Adam Wilde. And yes, there are some hard-core acyes, there are some hard-core action sequences, but the relentless eye of Bruce McCarthy's camera captures so much of the related production activity that the sexual liaisons are about as erotic as walking the dog.

The great thing about Larsen's

work here is the objectivity he brings to his task. Nothing is glamorized and little is left out.



Ronnie Larsen's Shooting Porn, with Blue Blake (right).

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1 • 800 • ASK • TOWER SHOP BY PHONE OR FOR THE STORE NEAREST YOU He gets the actors and directors to talk about all the taboo subjects, including salaries, porn stars as hookers, straight actors in gay porn, gay male strip clubs, HIV in the industry, and drugs on the set. The majordomos for this production are two porn directors, Gino Colbert and Chi Chi LaRue. The latter dresses as a male on the set of the set of his films, but always shows up in drag for public appearances to avoid becoming, as LaRue puts it, "just the fat guy in the corner."

"just the fat guy in the corner."

There are so many wonderful moments in this film, it's impossible to list them all. But among my favorites is the detailed demonstration of an actor's fleet enema before his close-up. The presence of porn critics David Widmer and Mickey Skee adds another dimension to Jarsen's work as the resion to Larsen's work, as the re-viewers offer their observations on gay porn from a consumer's point of view. Skee speaks from behind a retail counter littered with dozens of dildos standing on end, framing his face like a pornographic version of those Casa Rosada microphones from Evita. None of the insights here penetrates much further than nine

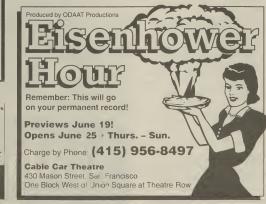
inches, but this isn't rocket sci ence. And that is one of the brilliant qualities of *Shooting Porn*: it never delves too deep because, es-None of these guys missed a Mensa meeting in order to shoot that last reel.

The actors are a mixed bunch.

Many seem dumb as posts, but a few, like Blue Blake, are shrewd manipulators who are going for the cash with a vengeance. Ronnie Larsen gives the colorful Chi Chi LaRue more camera time than most, and nothing pays off like his shot of the slack-jawed LaRue watching the actors on the video monitor and licking his lips. This unguarded moment is more perunguarded moment is more per-sonally revealing than any of LaRue's self-serving pontifica-tions. But it is the other porn di-rector, Gino Colbert, who takes the prize for gratuitous one-liners when he remarks, with pride, "I'm known for my toilet movies."

Shooting Porn is definitely an E-ticket ride. ▼

Shooting Porn plays at the Castro June 27 at 11:30 p.m.



The missing link

Macky Alston's 'Family Name'

by Robert Julian

rt and inspiration frequently come from the unlikeliest places. Such is the case with Family Name, Macky Alston's wonderful and inspiring documentary about his personal journey into his own family's history. Alston's search begins with the simple observation that his family name, Alston, is shared by two large and seemingly separate groups: African-American Alstons and Caucasian Alstons. While attending his first family reunion in North Carolina, the writer/director begins to ask questions that lead him on an unpredictable and uncomfortable journey.

journey.

Macky Alston discovers another Alston family reunion, only 40 miles from his own, and he decides to attend. But these Alstons are black. Macky learns he is a descendant of "Chatham Jack" Alston, head of one of the largest slave-owning families in the Carolinas. As he begins to research both black and white Alston genealogy, searching for a link between the two branches of the family, Macky encounters silence and willful ignorance at almost every turn. The sexual liaisons between masters and slaves before Abolition is something that was neither documented for, nor discussed with, the younger generations. But as one elderly black lady remarks, "In slave times, you know, everything happened"

mented for, nor discussed with, the younger generations. But as one elderly black lady remarks, "In slave times, you know, everything happened."

An ACT UP activist and Manhattan resident, Macky is determined not to give up until he can establish the connection between the families in some tangible way. His search is documented by Eliot Rockett's photography, which frequently relies on handheld cameras, creating a very real sense of the story unfolding as the film progresses. One of the remarkable things about this work is Macky Alston's willingness to question his motivations for his odyssey and to allow his understanding to evolve as he digs deeper. The son of two generations of Episcopalian ministers, Macky may seem to be quite a departure from his family tradition, but throughout the film, Alstons—both black and white—respond positively to his honesty and sincerity.

Family Name is a compelling and moving documentary that breaks the conspiracy of silence regarding interracial sexual relations and uncovers a potent shared history that can serve to bring people together. Macky's work engages the emotions on a fundamental level, without ever becoming manipulative or adopting the pose of the politically correct. Family Name is a loving and healing work of extraordinary compassion, and the fact that it comes from a young gay man, working in a non-gay milieu, makes it all the more exceptional. Writer/director Macky Alston has much to be proud of — as an Alston, a filmmaker and a human being. \textsuperscript{w}

Family Name plays at the Victoria Theatre June 28 at 4:30 p.m.



George DeGraffenreid (right), interviewed by filmmaker Macky Alston, at a black Alston family reunion in Family Name.

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Film Festival

■ Arts cover

Not surprising at this time of transformation, many of this year's best films are concerned with coming of age and coming to terms with gayness. A highlight is John F. Keitel's *Defying Gravity*, a roughly shot look at Griff, a handsome closeted frat boy whose inability to admit his relationship ability to admit his relationship with another guy indirectly trig-gers a brutal gay-bashing. The film looks cheesy but builds to a strong climax through its sheer sincerity and emotional intensity. The hero of Ira Sachs' moody, provocative *The Delta* is another provocative *The Delta* is another gorgeous, privileged white boy who's afraid to express his inner life for fear of losing the plush trappings of his outer one. In David DeCoteau's black-and-white *Leather Jacket Love Story*, the treasured white boy is an uncloseted 18-year-old poet who's unable to find his voice. Only after an affair with a hunky construction worker 10 years his senior does his writing become authentic. Steamy scenes in a Silverlake sex club and explicit encounters between the leads add resonance to this sometimes trite drama.

sex club and expirite renominers between the leads add resonance to this sometimes trite drama. Writer Daniel Harris has commented (in a recent interview in these pages) that gay youth culture is virtually indistinguishable from straight youth culture, and many of the films in this year's festival indicate the idea isn't so farfetched. In Gael Morel's fragmented, affecting Full Speed, a group of good-looking twenty-something pals, male and female, bed-hop and break each others' hearts. These kids are political and polysexual romantics who fight against class and race inequities but are unable to solve their own interpersonal problems. Samir, a young Arab, expresses a world of young Arab, expresses a world of frustrated desire when he says to his indifferent boyfriend, "Turn toward me. I'll make do with your



Dee Hennigan and Connie Nelson in Late Bloomers

heart beating next to mine." A brilliant French-Canadian film, Denis Langlois' L'Escorte, mines similar territory. In this case, a mysterious call boy named Steve disrupts the lives of a group of friends whose relationships are already fraying. In both films, there's a deadly three-way male triangle and a woman who paying triangle and a woman who navi-gates through it; typically she's the most reasoned voice in the group.

Regional lesbians

C

A genre hitherto unnoticed in previous festivals is here in force: the lesbian regional romance. The

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region is predominantly the South, with two of the features coming from Dallas. The first, Julia Dyer's Late Bloomers (a sneak preview at last year's festival), is a nuanced look at an affair between a formerly straight secretary and a dyke geometry teacher/basketball coach. The school bathroom becomes a secret escape route for women, with the startling motif of toilet paper exchanged between the stalls as a token of their feel-ings. Kelli Herd's It's In the Water is amateurish in its treatment of heartland homophobia, but shines when it focuses on the core ro-mance between a southern belle bored by her dull husband and a beautiful nurse. Another film that benefits from its extreme scrutiny of the details of a growing rela-tionship between women is Raquel Cecilia Harrington's sen-sual *Entwined*, shot in Florida. The director wisely avoids widening her canvas, casting the emotions into high relief. Moving far from the American hinterland is Deepa Mehta's Fire, a masterful Canadian feature shot in India. This film combines a cutting critique of a patriarchal society with a refresh-ing view of lesbianism as a clear road out of it. As in *Entwined*, the lovers are considerably different in age, and struggle with the often in-

maudin AIDS drama (Pinidaei-phia and Love! Valour! Compas-sion!) is less evident than in prior years. Whether they want to or not, mainstream audiences may have to get used to not identifying homosexuality exclusively with the disease. In a film like L'Escorte, the disease. In a film like L'Escorte, illness is only part of a larger canvas of troubled relationships. Nancy Meckler's well-acted Alive and Kicking has the obligatory KS-covered queen in a hospital bed, but the film manages to skirt the maudlin. When the dancer Tonio (Jason Fleming, from Hollow Reed) says, "My body betrayed me," he does it matter-of-factly, without the overweening self-nity without the overweening self-nity. me," he does it matter-of-factly, without the overweening self-pity that usually accompanies such sentiments. Richard Natale's Green Plaid Shirt looks at a group of bourgeois queens being decimated by AIDS without moving far from the tiresome death and



age, and struggle with the often in-compatible expectations that go with their generation.

One of the signs that the ghet-to is growing up is that the maudlin "AIDS drama" (*Philadel*-



Chocolate Babies features an ensemble cast of queer, quasi-drag people of color

dying mantras.

If much of the festival is about looking forward, modern filmmakers are also finding new uses for old forms. John Greyson's breathtaking Lilies mingles a finde-siècle romantic sensibility with innovative formal tricks that include radical time shifts and males playing women as women, not as drag queens. Greyson seems to be moving away from the emotional coldness of earlier works (Zero Patience) in this wonderfully florid, almost Firbankian view of thwarted love among beautiful boys.

Many shades of camp

Another hoary genre ripe for resurrection is the musical, and there are two entertaining exam-

ples here. Victor Mignatti's *Broadway Damage* is an ode to New York in the classic musical mode, this time substituting gay men for the lovestruck hetero couples of the past. Watch for Mara Hobel, who played little Christina Craw-ford in the infamous Mommie Dearest, as a grown-up chubby fag-hag who can't face the terrors of the real world. If Broadway of the real world. If Broadway Damage approaches the top, Franchesca Page lumbers over it. Starring "underground sensation" (per the press notes) Varla Jean Merman as a Divine-like stage mother, this gaudy, foolishly fun production mixes equal parts John Waters, Rae Bourbon, Phantom of the Opera, and Vincente Minnelli.

Camp and social conscious-

Camp and social conscious-

ness don't usually mix, and that's certainly the case with Stephen Winter's Chocolate Babies. This ragged, meandering tale of black gay, HIV-positive, drug addict drag queen terrorists is not credible in any conventional sense, but maybe that's not what the filmmakers were after. In spite of their activism, which takes the form of ACT UP-like assaults on form of ACT UP-like assaults on various officials, these are some of the most self-absorbed queens in cinema history, and their antics quickly prove wearisome. More successful in the pure camp realm is Yon Fan's Bugis Street, the first gay feature from Singapore. This is an intermittently sweet and silly coming-of-age tale, with a young straight girl

next page



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Privates on parade

by Gary Morris

hen I told my friend George, who hates movies that I was hen I told my friend George, who hates movies, that I was going to write a brief survey of frontal male nudity in this year's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, he raved, "Most movies are so horrible only dick could redeem them!" With this sentiment in mind, I've tried to catalog some cinematic sight-ings of our oft-discussed but rarely seen spongy-tissued little pal. This list isn't at all compre-hensive, but it should serve as a preliminary guide for male viewers who prefer a little anatomy

ers who prefer a little anatomy with their artistry.

For fans of drag dick, Chocolate Babies is de rigueur. Wiry Max spends much of his time getting drunk and screaming epithets from a rooftop, clad in a loosely woven net dress that hides none of his ample endowment. Latin Boys Go to Hell moves into butcher territory—or as butch as one er territory — or as butch as one can expect from men who watch can expect from men who watch soap operas. The poster boy for the film is the gorgeous Carlos, whose hefty schlong is inexplicably rejected by Justin, a twink he covets. However, this entry also falls into the dreaded "Where is the penis?" category when one of the characters is castrated.

David DeCoteau's Leather Jacket Love Story pays considerable attention to another handsome hunk in the buff. Mike is a

able attention to another handsome hunk in the buff. Mike is a thirtyish leatherman who falls for an 18-year-old blond *naif* who writes poetry. Don't let that angle put you off. Mike appears to be a true rarity in gay cinema: a convincing butch. He has numerous nude scenes in which he grinds away on top of Poetry Boy. Size queens will leave this one smiling.

A film about a porn star that doesn't show the fleshy member is



A meatless shot from the otherwise meaty Leather Jacket Love Story

hard to imagine, but William E. Jones' Finished, about suicidal sex star Alan Lambert, somehow managed to make one. Perhaps the NEA credit at the end of the film explains why there are so many shots of ocean waves and industrial landscapes and so few of Lambert's drool-inducing body. Fortunately, the other two porn docs in the festival fill the void. Ronnie Larsen's Shooting Porn reveals a variety of dicks on Porn reveals a variety of dicks on display, along with much reassuring cocksucking and buttfucking. England's archaic laws apparently allowed the makers of A Star is Porn to show limp dicks, but no action (it's optically censored, like Japanese porn). On the other hand, even clearly visible hardons couldn't make these decidedly homely Brits appealing. Some of this year's films have minimal or discreet frontal nudity that only whets the appetite. Denis Langlois' L'escorte has some extremely fetching French-Canadian flesh, but alas, we get only an eyestrain-inducing glimpse of the

eyestrain-inducing glimpse of the

sacred tool during a naked stroll through a dark hallway. Nancy Meckler's Alive and Kicking makes up in narrative power what it Meckler's Alive and Kicking makes up in narrative power what it lacks in dick, so perhaps we shouldn't complain about this one. Yon Fan's Bugis Street has a sexy, self-worshipping piece of trade whose endless hours in front of the mirrors prove only a tages when he fails to rip off his front of the mirrors prove only a tease when he fails to rip off his bikini briefs. John Greyson's *Lilies* is one of many features in this fes-tival that pivots on a beautiful man whose obtainability is in question. There are snatches of frontal nudity in this baroque production, but as always, never

production, but as always, never enough.

Greyson is also the probable winner of this year's PPSI (penisper-square-inch) award for Uncut. This challenging work is a virtual Shangri-La for the prick voyeur. Most intriguingly, the director uses Peter Greenaway-like windowbay inserts to show gircumcia. dowbox inserts to show circumcisions and dicks in various states of arousal. Call it "cock consciousness."

Film Festival

previous page

learning about life by working in a hotel full of transvestite whores. Ela Troyano's amusing whores. Eta Troyano's aniusing Latin Boys Go to Hell works a dif-ferent corner of camp. The gor-geous "boys" of the title spend all their time either watching soap

operas ("Dos Vidas") or living them, and it's no surprise when the operatic emotions here reach the point of violence.

The screaming retro trannies of Bugis Street and Chocolate Babies might not recognize — or claim to — their '90s sister Kim (Steven Macintosh) in Richard Spence's Different for Girls. Kim is a genteel greeting-card writer who

has a tortured affair with a rowdy straight boy played by Maurice's Rupert Graves. The film has a more subtle radicalism than its campy counterpart when it reveals Kim's altered body and Rupert Graves' prick in tantalizing detail.

As always in the festival, some As always in the restivat, some of the most exciting works are the least classifiable. That's certainly true of John Greyson's *Uncut*, a dazzling mix of fiction and documentary. The story, such as it is, concerns various men named Peter, each with his own obsession: circumcision, Pierre Trudeau, the Jackson Five. The film recalls another Peter — Greenaway — in its imposition of text on the visual image, particularly in a comical cruising scene where two men mock types come, concerns various men named where two men mock-type a con-versation that appears letter by let-ter on the screen. Duncan Roy's Clancy's Kitchen is also hard to pi-geonhole, a short feature (53 min-utes) that is by turns black-comic utes) that is by turns black-comic and emotionally wrenching. Handsome, popular TV chef Clancy has the same problem as Griff in *Defying Gravity*: he's deeply involved in a gay relationship but terrified to admit it. Clancy can only live authentically when he greatly with his own wice. he speaks with his own voice — a crucial lesson this festival brings home again and again.

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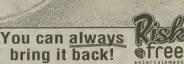
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Peace Through Chemistry II, from the Peace Through Chemistry Series, 1970, by Roy Lichtenstein

Pop smarts

Roy Lichtenstein prints at Legion of Honor

by Glen Helfand

n the realm of Pop Art, Roy Lichtenstein's work has a confectionery quality I find irresistible. His bold graphics, bright colors, and comic book references make for gleefully humorous images. In fact, his studies are so breezy, so appealingly full of pop cultural references, that it's easy to overlook deeper meanings beneath the bold dots and pouty cartoon blondes.

dots and poury cartoon blondes.

On the surface, Lichtenstein seems closely aligned with the Pop Art urge to turn mass-produced images from throwaway culture into high art, but as a satisfying new exhibit of the artist's prints at the Legion of Honor reveals, Lichtenstein has consistently applied the same strategy in reverse throughout his career. The Legion show, boasting 27 works from the Harry and Margaret Anderson Collection, proves the artist is capable of viewing the whole of art history through the filter of Sunday comics. While it may be difficult for some to take Brenda Starr as serious art, there's little doubt on the evidence of the works in this exhibit that Lichtenstein was aiming for anything less.

aiming for anything less.

You could call this show "Art History for Dummies," except that beneath the cartoon surfaces, there is real depth and major smarts. Lichtenstein lures us in with an immediately recognizable style, and quickly starts raising questions about the differences between high art and low culture, not to mention our subjective readings of each. Take his 1969 Cathedral series: Bach print depicts the facade of Rouen Cathedral, a subject appropriated from Claude Monet's suite of Impressionist paintings that captured the building at various times of day. Lichtenstein's version does the same thing, only with an industrial twist — each color lithograph silk-screen combo suggests the time of day by changing the colors of halftone dots. Cathedral #1 manages a midday view with yellow dots on a white background, while evening (#6) is brilliantly evoked with blue ones on a barelycontrasting black background. (Lichtenstein's painted versions of these works are on display in SF-MOMA's permanent collection galleries.) The artist adds a level of irony by reproducing halftone dots in the more careful realms of lithography and screen printing.

lithography and screen printing. Lichtenstein's 1973 Bull Profile Series takes the serial process in a different direction. In six simple images he transforms a steakhouse mascot into a geometric abstraction a la Mondrian, in the process turning a strategy employed by Matisse and Picasso into something resembling a cartoon strip.

thing resembling a cartoon strip. While Lichtenstein's iconographic pop imagery covers territory similar to Andy Warhol's, Lichtenstein's career has been overshadowed by Warhol's fame and interest in celebrity. But where the latter's efforts were firmly rooted in notions of superstardom, Lichtenstein, in high postmodern fashion, has consistently nodded to art historical sources. Working within the same visual format for most of his career, Lichtenstein has cheerfully applied this penchant to various themes, avoiding the sort of pathos that led Warhol to fixate on electric chairs and car crashes. The less savory studies here have a designer focus. The 1970 Modern Head series (inspired by the work of Russian Constructivist Andrej Jawlensky) veers a little too close to the era's decorative fascination with Art Deco. These stylized images of heads are printed on reflective aluminum or embossed backing and resemble luxe foil wallpaper from some swank discotheque. Thankfully, the artist

redeemed himself that same year with the marvelously panoramic Peace through Chemistry II, inspired by WPA murals with industrial themes. Like the similarly dotty homages to the Surrealists, the piece boils down the genre to its reproducible essence.

One of the most refreshing pieces in this exhibit is its earliest work. It Life is an unbound 1963 limited-edition book that combines poetry by Walasse Ting with prints by Lichtenstein, Jim Dine, Sam Francis, Claes Oldenberg, Joan Mitchell, Andy Warhol, and others. There are two Lichtenstein images here, an iconic cartoon blonde and a can of spray paint, accompanied by a goofy Ting poem, dated 1959 A.D. The text embodies the kind of obtuse, whimsical spirit of the images, and of the Pop era:

"Millions and millions of old ladies go to stock market buy fire-cracks to casino enjoy moonlight to toilet room watch television to hotel watch man's buttocks ... to museum buy copies second hand"

Roy Lichtenstein Prints is up through September 7 at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor.

PERFORMANCE

Woman of the year

erformer Zachary Barton combines an interest in cabaret and early 20th-century music with a feminist's concern for women who don't know how to be themselves in a culture that prizes female dependence. Using music, drama, and lots of humor, Barton explores the various ways in which women try to get along in a world that has not always valued them. Barton's latest show, One Scary Woman!, consists of seven spoken-word sketches interposed with music. The text of the show is built around playwrights' responses to the ques-

ry women? "It was so interesting," a completely clear and completely

wrights' responses to the question, How do you describe scary women? "It was so interesting," Barton relates. "Each writer had a completely clear and completely different picture of a scary woman." The playwrights in question are former collaborators of Barton's, Reed Kirk Rahlmann, Sharr White, Shane Carroll, and Jack Rikess. Though the show is largely funny, One Scary Woman! is also enlightening. It makes you think while you laugh. Scary.

One Scary Woman! runs from June 16-21 at the 450 Geary Studio at 450 Geary Street. Call 673-1172 for tickets and info.



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Calling Quentin Crisp

A chat with New York's resident alien

by Steven Jenkins

ne doesn't exactly interview Quentin Crisp, the 88-yearold Englishman in New York whose wit, wisdom, and lilac locks have made him America's favorite expatriate dandy. Rather, one plays straight man for a comic dialogue in which Crisp has all the good lines. After speaking with him by phone last week about the recent publication of Resident Alien: The New York Diaries (Alyson Publications, \$21.95), a thoroughly delightful collection of his journal jottings for The New York Native, I quick-ly realized that there is no question to which Crisp does not already have a clever, well-rehearsed reply. He deftly fielded my inquiries regarding culture, politics, and gay gossip with disarming candor and no shortage of pithy quips. Chatting from his tiny bedsit in a rooming house on the Lower East Side, Crisp was as engaging and trenchant over the phone as he is in the pages of his diary.

diary. Having lived in England for decades as a flamboyantly "out" gadfly whose stylish idiosyncrasies naturally shocked uptight Brits, Crisp escaped to the Big Apple in the early '80s, at age 72. While in modesty and propriety he remains as English as a tea cozy, Crisp has capitalized on a peculiarly American phenomenon: he's famous for being famous. Sure, he's an accomplished author of several books and a scene-stealer in films like Orlando and Philadelphia, but Crisp has garnered his lion's share of devotion and notoriety simply by being himself. Though he would never admit it, Crisp is a savvy player in the fame business, thriving in what he calls "the smiling and nodding racket." With devilish charm and an almost accidental flair for maximizing every opportunity, Crisp has undertaken a brilliant second act of self-invention.

brilliant second act of self-invention.

"My first book was called The Naked Civil Servant, which is a very bad title," Crisp explains in his musical croak. "I wanted to call it My Reign in Hell, because, as you know, Mr. Milton wrote that Satan said, 'Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven.' And that is what I've done. I couldn't enter the world of respectability, so I've reigned in the opposite world as much as possible. I've always been a hopeless case. If I disguised myself as a human being, people would have said, 'Who does he think he's kidding?' So I tried to make myself more like myself than nature had made me. You have to decide who you are and then you have to be it like mad."

Crisp has triumphed with this strategy in his adopted homeland. "It's very wonderful living in America," he says with absolute conviction. "Everything's done for me. Whereas no one's your friend in Britain, everyone's your friend in New York. They tell you the story of their lives while standing on the street corner waiting for the light to change. Whatever you propose to do in America, everyone is for it. If you stood up in a restaurant and said, 'Can I have your attention? I'm'getting up a cabaret act,' first of all everyone would clap. Then they'd ask,

'What will you do? What are you going to wear? Would you like the name of my agent?' If you did the same thing in England, your friends would say,'For god's sake, don't make a fool of yourself."

Perhaps the one city in Amer-

Crisp conjectures. "They [the gay community] want to be separate but equal. I never understood that. It means cutting yourself off from nine-tenths of the human race. When I said that to someone, he told me, I have nothing in

Though he would never admit it, Crisp is a savvy player in the fame business, thriving in what he calls "the smiling and nodding racket."

ica where Crisp might be accused of having done just that is our very own queer hamlet, certain denizens of which cattily dismiss Crisp as a depoliticized Oscar Wilde for preferring bon mots to pride parades. "The first time I came to San Francisco it was the only city where I received totally bad notices, maybe because I never mentioned homosexuality."

common with them.' What a weird thing to say. He has everything in common with them except for the funny ways he spends his evenings."

so will Crisp be joining in this month's nationwide celebration of gay pride? "You can't be proud of being gay because it isn't something you've done," he says with

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Quentin Crisp

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Business as usual

SFO's 'Madama Butterfly'

by Paul Thomason

fter the San Francisco Opera's successful "Broad-way-style run" of Puccini's La Boheme last summer at the Orpheum Theater, it was only natural that the company would want to repeat its success this year. San Francisco Opera surveys showed that a significant number of the *Boheme* audience was seeing its Boneme audience was seeing its first opera, enjoying it, and planning to return. So the company decided to offer Puccini's Madama Butterfly this summer at the Golden Gate Theatre (using multiple casts and charging significantly less than the fall ticket with the Golden Gate Theatre (using multiple casts and charging significantly less than the fall ticket with the Golden Gate Theatre (using the casts and charging significantly less than the fall ticket with the Golden Gate Theatre (using the casts and charging the casts an price). Judging by the first two performances on Saturday and Sunday, however, Butterfly misses the mark as surely as last June's Bohemes hit it dead center.

The reason Boheme was so successful was that it presented a straightforward, no-nonsense production of the opera with strong casts. Granted it is easier to assemble four pretty-good casts of *Boheme* than it is to assemble even one decent cast of *Butterfly*. But the company has compounded its weak casting with a production designed to confuse anyone who designed to contuse anyone who does not have access to a press kit, which explains: "Director Ron Daniels stages [the opera] primarily with the opera novice in mind, a kind of person attuned to the conventions of film and television. He framed the whole with vision. He framed the whole with a flashback device, in which But-terfly and Pinkerton's grown son comes upon a box in the attic which yields an American flag and a number of Japanese objects,

a number of Japanese objects, thus starting a series of images which form the story." Before the music begins, a tall, twentysomething blond man walks onstage, opens a box, and takes out an American flag. and takes out an American flag. From time to time during the performance, he wanders back onstage and watches a bit. At the end, Butterfly plops her two-year-old son down in front of the man, who hugs the boy as his mother commits suicide. Unfortunately, nowhere in the opera program is the blond man identified. His picture does appear in the series of rehearsal photos (labeled "E.E. Grant, IV"), but no such name appears in the cast list, nor does the synopsis of Butterfly say anything about him. Like most "explanatory" devices forced onto operas by directors who don't trust the works they're who don't trust the works they're directing, it is awkward and un-

More serious, though, is the internally inconsistent direction, which fights the action of the drama. When Pinkerton's ship is spotted in the harbor, a large silhouette of the boat moves across the back of the state. houette of the boat moves across the back of the stage — a great touch. But Butterfly, her son, and Suzuki spot the ship by looking into the audience, though a few minutes later, while waiting for Pinkerton's arrival, they turn and face the ship. The minimal set by Michael Yeargan, a frame supporting a number of sliding panels, is arresting and beautiful, but the almost constantly shifting panels needlessly complicate the action. Within a few minutes, the front of the stage is used as a garden, a private room, and at the den, a private room, and at the beginning of Act II, the blond man wanders across the space,



Scottish soprano Rosalind Sutherland as Madama Butterfly

where, for some reason, Butterfly is sleeping.
Still, with a soprano and tenor

who can actually sing the music and show a little interest in each other, this *Butterfly* could work. But the opening night Butterfly, Rosalind Sutherland (in her U.S. opera debut), and her Pinkerton, Mario Malagnini, were so busy struggling with the music they did ittle more than occupy spaces on the stage. Zheng Cao, as Suzuki, walked away with the perfor-mance, and baritone Mel Ulrich (SF Opera debut) actually managed to make Prince Yamadori a strong, sympathetic character, not the cypher he usually is.

If the second cast offered little

overall improvement, it at least had John Autry as a strong Sharp-less and Elizabeth Bishop's opuless and Elizabeth Bishop's opu-lent voice as Suzuki. Debuting Jeanne-Michelle Charbonnet sang a good Sieglinde in the role of Butterfly. She did not come with-in a continent of being Puccini's 15-year-old geisha. But Charbon-net does have a strong, exciting, rather raw spinto voice that will auger well for her appearances with the SF Opera this fall in Wagner's Flying Dutchman. She provided the weekend's only good moment — in the second act, when Butterfly spots the returning ship. Here, conductor Marco Armiliato let the orchestra rip, and Charbonnet opened up vocally, riding the orchestral sound to a thrilling climax. She sounds for all the world like a promising Wagnerian soprano.

Wagnerian soprano.
The orchestra's concertmaster,
Kay Stern, played the score's numerous violin solos so beautifully I wished the singers could have matched her phrasing. In fact, only some sour, whiny oboe playing in both performances marred the otherwise superb work of the entire orchestra.

Performances of Madama Butterfly continue at the Golden Gate Theatre through June 29 with various casts. Tickets range from \$25 to \$70. For reservations and information, call (415) 864-

Hermaphrodites

◄ page **41**

lowing quote from an article in the June 5, 1997 San Francisco Chronicle of interest: "A bill to bar discrimination against gays and lesbians in public education was defeated in the Assembly early yesterday after a Republican rancher invoked images of 'heifer hermaphrodites' while his colleagues used the Bible to argue for and against the measure." All victims of discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender idensexual orientation or gender identity are connected in the minds of

their oppressors, and the wisest their oppressors, and the wisest and most effective offensive will always be a united one. The film-makers and Frameline deserve credit for elevating the level of discourse by assembling this important program.

"Hermaphrodites With Attitude" screens at the Victoria Theater, June 22, at 11 a.m. The screening will be followed by a discussion with hermaphrodite activists Suegee Tamar-Mattis and Cherly Chase of the Intersex Society of North

Gay maverick

David Del Tredici's 'Gay Life'

by Timothy Pfaff

an Francisco Symphony summer music festivals haven't been the same since Michael Tilson Thomas began presiding over them. This summer's "Celebrations of the Sacred and Profane" (June 12-28) may well turn out to be one of the oddest yet. If not that, it will certainly be the queerest.

Yes, there is a "Tribute to Schubert" concert June 19 and 21, but there's no reason to think it will venture opinions or evidence on the hot topic of Schubert's alleged homosexuality. No, the really queer event happens in the middle of the June 15th "Mavericks" concert with a performance of a piece

cert with a performance of a piece called *Gay Life*, by gay American composer David Del Tredici.

In recent years, gay themes have found their way into movies, television, theater, popular music, and now even the staid world of classical music. Ironically, these themes haven't always been delivered in a language that speaks to gay audiences as much as they do to mainstream ones. For instance, gay addrinces as inight as inight as they do to mainstream ones. For instance, the AIDS Quilt Songbook couldn't fill Davies Hall, and even the opera Harvey Milk was unable to convince a significant cross-section of gay audiences that it had much to do with the way we were, or are. Gay Life breaks with this pattern not merely because it was commissioned from a gay com-poser by a gay music director who is presenting the piece during Gay Pride month, but because the work itself is a celebration of gay-

work itself is a celebration of gayness plain and simple. Gay Life consists of eight songs, four of which will be performed at the "Mavericks" concert. Though Del Tredici calls Paul Monette's AIDS poem Here "the heart" of the work, he insists his cycle is really about "the diversity of gay life." Over the phone from Yaddo, a famous artists' colony near Saratoga, New York, Del Tredici explains, "I hate the stereotype about gays that you're either dying of AIDS or you're out being promiscuous." As evidence of the multiform character of his composition, the composer composition, the composer points out that one of the pieces in Gay Life is set to a portion of The Song of Songs. "I took out the part that reveals it's being said by a woman so that it sounds like a

a woman so that it sounds like a man talking about a man — it's my way of celebrating being gay."

The New York-based Del Tredici was born and raised in California and graduated from UC Berkeley in 1959. And Gay Life, he reveals, has significant roots in the area. "Last summer I went to a week-long Body Electric intensive at Wildwood [near Russian River]," the composer says. "It was like nothing else I'd ever done before. I loved working with the sexual energy of a group with the sexual energy of a group of gay men, in particular the de-shaming of body parts. And it was the first time I had really done

drag.
"The whole experience was beyond my wildest dreams, and it really opened me up. It was incredibly liberating. When I went to Yaddo after Body Electric, I had an incredible creative streak. I wrote four song cycles in a month, *Gay Life* being one of them. There were no sketches, no nothing. The songs just poured

out.
"I'm a recovering alcoholic



Composer David Del Tredici and baritone William Sharp

and sex addict. I've just started coming out about that, and for a long time I had thought my creativity just wasn't as hot as when I was an addict. It was very affirming for me to see how Body Elec-

new the to see how body Elec-tric caused a creative burst like I'd never had in my whole life." Two other songs in *Gay Life* are set to poems by fellow partici-pants in the Body Electric intensive, but locals won't hear them until the SF Symphony performs the fully orchestrated *Gay Life* at some point down the road. "Tm presently finishing a piece called *The Spider and the Fly* for the New York Philharmonic, so I won't have time to do the orchestrations until I'm done with that. But I played, the copies for Michael played the songs for Michael [Tilson Thomas] last Christmas, and he liked them so much he decided to commission the orchestrations." At these concerts, bari-

cided to commission the orchestrations." At these concerts, baritone William Sharp will sing four of the songs with Del Tredici at the piano.

The first two, "Personals Ad" and "After the Big Parade," are by the late Allen Ginsberg, who was a distinguished professor at the City University of New York (CUNY), where Del Tredici also teaches. "I never met him until last summer, when we were on a program together," Del Tredici recalls. "I asked him if he had anything dirty I could set, and he dog-eared a few selections from his collected poems for me." Although regular readers of B.A.R.'s Bartalk won't be scandalized by "Personals Ad," it does speak to the gay experience directly. "Big Parade" is about a New York Gay Liberation parade.

The composer, who lost his own lover to AIDS four years ago,

The composer, who lost his own lover to AIDS four years ago, says he set Monette's *Here* in a single day. "I cried the entire time, it brought up so many feelings. With all the songs, I just sat down and wrote — sometimes before I'd even read the poem all the way through. At times, I got a sense of what it must have been like for Mozart and Schubert, that feeling that everything you're writing is

right."

Del Tredici is primarily known Del fredict is primarily known as a composer of symphonic song cycles, several of which have been based on Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*. "My whole style has changed with these songs. Before, it was more ornate, bel canto, which was fine because the Lewis Carroll texts are often nonsense. But these texts are very real, and my primary concern was that the words be heard, so my writing is

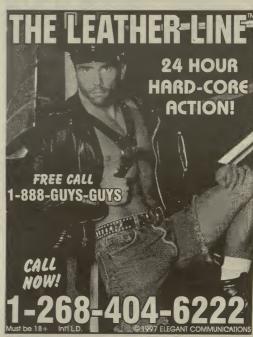
words be heard, so my writing is much more straight-forward, and I hope affecting.

Del Tredici reveals that this is. the first time he's composed for a male voice. "I just got used to writing for sopranos, and I guess I thought there was something pitchless about a man's voice. But there's nothing pitchless about

Bill Sharp's. I think he'll be perfect for these songs." Certainly few other works in

Certainly few other works in the festival are as likely to combine the sacred and the profane. The concerts of June 12-14 will commingle Mozart's Requiem, canceled last season because of the musicians' strike, with Giacinto Scelsi's Aion, a piece Tilson Thomas says exists at the edge of what andiences might think of as what audiences might think of as music. On June 18 and 20, Kurt Weill's *The Seven Deadly Sins*, with soprano Julia Migenes, shares the bill with Berg's Violin Concerto and the San Francisco Symphony premiere of J.S. Bach's cantata O Ewigkeit, du Donner-wort, from which Berg's concerto borrows. The final programs, June 26 and 28, combine Berlioz's Symphonie fantastique with his rarely heard Lelio. For tickets call 864-6000. ▼







GROUP J/O PARTIES

Tue, Wed and Fri nights (8pm-12M/1am Fri)

If you like to get hard, show off and watch or play with other guys who like the same, these parties are for you. Exhibitionists and voyeurs equally welcome. Comfortable and laid-back, you can play with others or watch 3 different continuous video screens showing both recent-release and J/O specially videos. In addition to video-room spaces, adjoining huge warehouse area open for these parties only! Cool lighting, seating, play spaces. Mandatory clothes check Apm-Midnight Tue & Fri. Clothes check required to enter warehouse on Wed.

J/O only. Adm. \$8

Circle J Cinema • 369 Eliis • SF • (415)474-6995 • Metro: Powell







Pillow book

by Erin Blackwell

Lust Never Sleeps by Randi Tur-

ust Never Sleeps is 200-plus pages of erotic encounters featuring young dykes who have names and day jobs and know each other, at least to the extent of belonging to the same loose-knit community. Characters recur throughout the eight "chapters," but the same two women never fuck each other outside the chapter for which they're the main event. main event.

main event.

This chunky one-handed read will give people living outside our city some idea of what goes on with and between lesbians in San Francisco, although no attention is paid to such obvious hot spots as Red Dora's, Luna Sea, or Good Vibrations. Documentary details are not Turoff's main focus here, are not Turoff's main focus here, although she goes out of her way to name Pussy Tourette and quote lyrics from his hit "French Bitch," as performed at a "SOMA street-fair."

Another potential disappointment for aspiring or practicing sapphists is Turoff's conflation of male and female biomechanics. Under her pen, the clitoris becomes just another dick (which doesn') keap manuar men of her doesn't keep many or most of her sexplorers from packing a rubber one). "Neeta took Jas's long, erect clit into her mouth, and sucked" raises real anatomical questions, as does this same character's clit "discharg[ing] its load," or the fol-

"I take my hand and get three stiff ones into her, and I'm fuck-

Italics mine. Now, as far as I know, the clit is incapable of ejaculating, although the urethra can produce a kind of watery "cum," and the vagina, of course, is a known source of lubricant. (Skeptics should see Fanny Fatale's hysterical film *How*

to Female Ejaculate.)
Turoff's narrative tone
is tough and driving, almost unis tough and driving, almost un-consciously Damon Runy-onesque, and given to mala-propisms like "tinkling the ivories." But she's not afraid to essay quite a different register in the section entitled "River's Story: Quest of the Rose." Here, she in-troduces a story within a story, in what's called the "gothic" vein, written by an out-of-towner named River:

"The queen was quite taken aback at the sight of the knight. It was the complete fulfillment of all was the complete fulfillment of all of her major wishes made manifest. The queen barely knew what to do. The knight bolted the door and stripped down to her exquisite nakedness. The queen removed her own clothing and, with trembling arms, embraced the woman before her. They made love to a transcendental degree of love to a transcendental degree of satisfaction for both.

The book ends on a more con-temporary but equally lofty note. Shayne is a freelancer whose

ing up against her cervix as her ing up against ner cervix as ner walls are opening and closing around me. I push her down on the couch and jump the slut. My clit is shooting off in my pants. She lets out this blast of cum all over my fingers."



"work demanded a great deal of time, energy, and commitment, despite its low financial rewards." (Right on, Sister!) Turoff's alter ego has met her soulmate in Re-nata, a painter who lives with a high-earning wife all the way down in San Diego. The sex between the star-crossed lovers is great, but the love is problematic:

"It was cruel the way things worked — how loss made emo-tions and feelings that much more vivid . . . [Shayne] was coming to see on just how many levels of her being she had actually been touched by Renata — besides her bodily needs. The woman had cast a spell on her subconscious."

The entrance of Love onto these sex-sated pages is a bit of a shocker and leads this reader to believe we may be in for a sequel, maybe even an extended narrative next time. Because where there is love, there are novels. ▼

Quentin Crisp

◄ page **49**

no little bafflement. "Being gay just occurs to you. You can only accept it." After decrying what he perceives as community ghettoization, Crisp defers, "I suppose you can be proud of not being ashamed."

ashamed."
Crisp's refusal to tow the party line of gay politics extends to his dour view of England's recent Labor victory. "It won't really make a difference. Nothing ever changes in England. Now, if I had been born in Russia or Cuba or China I would have been shot, and as I stood before the firing party I would have said, 'Just a moment, I want to vote.' But in



Quentin Crisp

England it's meaningless. Politics is the art of making the inevitable appear to be a matter of wise human choice."

human choice."
As for the American public's fascination with President Clinton's sex life, "I think it's absurd. If a man has the courage, the energy, the strength, the imagination to decide he can rule the world, would you not expect these characteristics to show up in his private life? Mr. Kennedy was a born lecher. His reputation was only preserved because of how wonpreserved because of how won-derful Mrs. Kennedy was. She never said a word."

The esteemed Jackie O. once provided Crisp with a memorable provided Crisp with a memora-New York afternoon, not in per-son mind you, but at a celebrated auction of her belongings held abortly after her death. "Two auction of her belongings held shortly after her death. "Two strange people rang me up and asked if I was going to the auction. I told them I wasn't worthy, but they picked me up anyway and took me to Sotheby's. We went into a room which was entirely given over to Mrs. Onassis' jewel-ry. I live; in one room because I. ry. I live in one room because I never know what people do with the room they're not in. Now I know — they keep their dia-

monds in it."
Unsolicited strangers like the Sotheby's boys contact Crisp at all hours of the day and night, and he may well be the only famous permay well be the only famous person in Manhattan whose number is listed in the city directory. "I don't know why this surprises Americans," he says with mock exasperation. "If you don't have your number in the book you get stuck with your friends. If you do have your number in the book you meet strangers. The only point of fame is that it extends your social horizons."

Indeed, Crisp must be the busiest octogenarian alive, mingling with New York society, traveling the lecture circuit, showing

eling the lecture circuit, showing up in Calvin Klein fragrance com-mercials, and generally making the

mercials, and generally making the scene as the elder statesman of Queendom. As he writes in Resident Alien, "I am a free-loader, a dilettante, a butterfly on the wheel. And that's putting it nicely."

Still, Crisp professes to be happiest when sussing out a crossword puzzle in his \$75-a-week room. As our conversation draws to a close, I reveal that his name had been the answer to a crossword clue I'd seen a few months ago. "That's fame indeed!" he says, laughing. And who deserves it more?

To celebrate the publication of Resident Alien, the New Conservatory Theatre will present "An Evening with Quentin Crisp" on Saturday, June 14 at 8 p.m. The program will include storytelling and musings in addition to a musings in addition to a question and answer period. For tickets and information, call 861-8972



Dennis Cooper's 'Guide'

Acid wash

by Roberto Friedman

obert was maybe just maybe one-quarter alive but...
Tracy was definitely dead.
No fucking doubt a-fucking-bout
it. Because she was ... upside
down?" The voice could only be Dennis Cooper's, the scene his grim LA, and these are the *lucky* characters in his new novel *Guide*,

just out from Grove Press.
From Grove's publicity mills, we learn that *Guide* is the fourth we learn that Guide is the fourth in a five novel cycle, beginning with Frisk. In retrospect, Frisk was a Faberge egg of a novel, delicately structured, about the power of language, completely lost in the film version. We took Closer to indicate that the author was nearing his goal. getting closer to his ideal dicate that the author was nearing his goal, getting closer to his ideal work. But with its child mutilations and corpse sex, that book was perhaps his grisliest, the most daunting to get through. Try was his breakthrough novel: he had found a way to frame his violent vision with a compelling, even humorous narrative voice, Ziggy. The same horrific obsessions haunt-Try, but they are more ac-

But Guide is Cooper at his purest. His favored themes re-appear: the desire to violate and dispear: the desire to violate and dis-member boy beauties; the ego's obliteration with drugs; art-mak-ing, sex, rock music, kiddie porn, and the innocence which lurks beneath the jaded fronts of teenagers. Guidé's narrator seems closest to the "teal" author; his pangs of conscience at his dark fantasies seem more human, if no less creepy: and its cast of pathetless creepy; and its cast of pathet-ic fuck-ups truer to composites of "real" friends. It's as if the novelist has progressively stripped away the pretensions and the shock value of earlier works to arrive at

his unencumbered vision.

Cooper's horror house is large cooper's norror house is large enough to include meditations on attraction, sex, AIDS. He refers to his own rock journalism for *Spin* magazine and, never one to let any sort of expertise go to waste, includes sample lyrics from Guided by Voices and Blur to set a mood. He is one of few contemporary authors to write intelliporary authors to write intelligently about drugs, the reasons



Dennis Cooper

for taking them and laying off them. Near the novel's outset he describes a bad acid trip, and the psychotic qualities peculiar to LSD help inform the rest of the work. Ecstasy, pot, hash, speed, mushrooms and heroin all play a part in this drug education, but not in a stupid advocacy role. Certainly none of the book's addicts ends up well.

Strange that Dennis Cooper should be considered a practitioner of moral fiction, in the old-fashioned, John Gardner sense of the phrase. But he grapples with issues most writers won't touch.

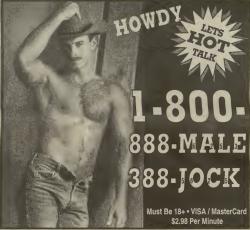
the phrase. But he grapples with issues most writers won't touch. He takes elements of afterschool TV dramas — teen drug use, sex abuse — and crafts hip marvels. And does it all in slim novels that seldom crack 200 pages.

Still, Cooper's honesty and sheer skill with language are always front and center. The gory stuff is just his meat For pure

ways from ame center. He gory stuff is just his meat. For pure horror, he can't be beat. There's this folded-in story about a dwarf eviscerating a junkie, and what he finds inside him, but... you really have to want to go there. ▼



NO CREDIT CARD NEEDED 25-2555 993-4399 Hot Live Talk Hot Stud - Steamy Party - Man to Man 24 Hour



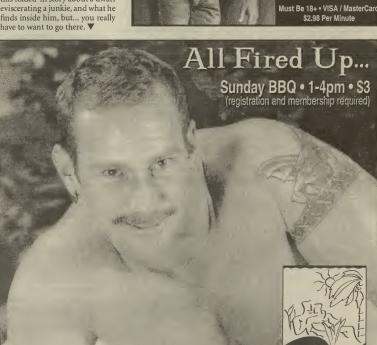


Photo I.D. required. • Must be 18 years. • Easy Cal-Train Access.

PERFORMANCE

Triple threat



A rt you can describe isn't worth going to see, which must make the LAB's upcoming triple bill, Tip Toe, the performance event of the season. In appearance of order:

The elegant Margaret Tedesco insinuates her dance and design savvy into a collaboration with those two wayward nymphs of the urban outback, Zoey Kroll and Carolyn Cooley — aka the Daughters of Houdini. With super-8 and slide projections, original sound-scape, text and evocative moves, the trio, plus guest Catherine Debon, promise to outstrip expectation with Irigans (without speech).

The undulant Lisi DeHaas will explore the flipside sisters of Swan Lake, Odette and Odile, as they attempt to inhabit the same fissured soul. "Denial, masochism and entrapment" are the basic ingredients of this one-woman psychological seismograph entitled Theft.

Consenting audience members will finally be subjected to Dr. Show, Dr. Tell, a collaborative slide show by Lissa Ivy and the abovementioned Daughters — something about arcane medical mysteries and femalpractices.

ies and femalpractices.

Performances run Thursday through Saturday, June 12-14, at 8 p.m. The LAB is at 2948 16th Street. For info., call 864-8855. ▼

- Erin Blackwell



Calendare



Untitled from the series Stiller Nach-mittag (Quiet Afternoon), 1985

Swissart

eter Fischli & David Weiss: In a Restless World is an introduction to the work of the acclaimed col-laborative team of Swiss artists, now on exhibit at SFMOMA. The museum's chief curator Gary Garrels says Fischli & Weiss's art is "about perception, and taking off our blinders" to find the latent wonder in ordinary objects. For example, in their *Wurstserie* (Sausage Series), they arrange the contents of Series), they arrange the contents of their refrigerators in amusing and creative ways: an assortment of cold cuts displayed as carpets, sausages as cars in an accident scene. Le rayon vert (The Green Light) makes beauty from a flashlight and a spinning plastic cup.

The pair represented Switzerland in the 1995 Venice Biennale with an astounding 80 hours of videotape. In the elegant installation here, ten monitors offer "real time" footage (actually much edited down) of sanitation workers, the Zürich motorcross race.

workers, the Zürich motorcross race, cheesemaking, and the construction of a Swiss Tunnel, among much else. It's all quite banal, and subtly fascinating at the same time.

There's an element of trompe l'oeil in their work, especially in their Empty Room, a gallery ostensibly cordoned off for an installation in progress. Closer inspection reveals that tools, paint, and miscellaneous clutter, 156 pieces in all, are carefully crafted from polyurethane. No doubt some oblivious museumgoers will pass right by this fiendishly clever artifice.

The show's highlight is certainly their film Der Lauf der Dinge (The Way Things Go), which debuted at the 1987 Documenta art fair. In this imaginative tour de force, natural processes set off a 30 minute chain reaction. The domino effect of various gasses, explosions and gravity can be hypnotizing. It's the There's an element of trompe l'oeil

and gravity can be hypnotizing. It's the last word on kinetic energy, out Rube Goldberg-ing even Rube Goldberg. Fischli & Weiss' work is so easy to like, its basic profundity could be overlooked. Their unfired clay sculptures, their northeast the country of the their post-Duchampian readymades, their studies of airports and studio debris are both ingenious and deflating. They're as concerned with the holes as with the Swiss cheese.

Peter Fischli & David Weiss: In a Restless World shows through September 9 at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 3rd St. Call 357-4000 for information.



Bay Area Now

Summer multidisciplinary arts fest & exhibition opens with live music dance party. 8pm-2am. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission.

Beyond the Paradise

Mexican Butoh dancer Diego Piñón in ritual dance. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 6/14. \$10. Dancers' Group Studio The-Dancers' Group Stuater, 3221 22nd St.

The Big Drag

1940s stage noir comedy by Chris Leader and Sean Owens. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm ex-tended thru 6/14. \$12-18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Dividing Lines:

"Race and Class," raw per-formances, spoken word, music, more. Fri. & Sat. thru 6/14, 6/15 at 8pm. \$10-15. Luna Sea Women's Perf. Proj., 2940 16th St. 863-2989.

Durang, Durang Actors Theatre of SF presents six vignettes by playwright Christopher Durang. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 6/14. \$16-18. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter 296-9179.

Hanging from

the Highwire Femme art show, artists in-clude Phyllis Christopher, Maria Luisa Jimenez, Carol Queen. Reception tonight, 6pm. Thurs.-Sun. thru 6/21. Build, 483 Guerrero.

I'd Like To Hide It

42nd St. Moon performers sing a salute to gay lyricists Cole Porter, Lorenz Hart. Fri.

& Sat. at 6:30pm thru 6/14 \$15. Star Classics, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

Imagine That!

Imagine That:
A Circus Showcase to benefit
the SF School of Circus Arts.
Tonight at 8pm (also perfs.
Sat. & Sun., call for times).
\$25. Circus Gym, 755 Frederick. 759-8123.

Luminous Things

3rd installment of Stevan Key's work-in-progress per-formance on male sexuality. \$5-10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Ctr., 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Mama Cass' Summer

of Love-In Katie Guthorn is Mama Cass headlining the Monterey Pop Fest. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 6/21. \$15. Transmission The-atre, 314 11th St. 861-6906.

Maya Angelou

Poet, playwright, activist speaks to benefit Women's Foundation. \$19. 8pm. Ma-sonic Auditorium, California at Taylor. 392-4400.

Muddy Little River

Harriet Dodge performs mul-timedia Poems on Being Earnest with original live music, slides, 16mm film. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 6/21. \$10. Intersection for the Arts, 455 Valencia. 821-6276.

The Mystery of

The Mystery of Irma Vep Aurora Theatre Co. & Magic Theatre Co. present Charles Shaw Robinson and Danny Scheie in Charles Ludlam's spoof of gothic horror. Wed.—Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 6/29 (7/8-27 at the Magic, call for times). \$20-22. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant, Berkeley. (510) 843-4822.

Pandemonium

Antenna Theatre's celebration of spring, a walk-through outdoor performance. Thurs.-

Sun. at 8:30pm thru 6/22. \$12-15. Headlands Center for the Arts, 944 Fort Barry, Marin. 332-4862.

Quentin Crisp

Famous wit reads from his NY diaries, Resident Alien, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Ralph Nader Is Missing!

Charlie Varon's new comedy for four actors. Thurs.-Sun. thru 6/29. Call for times, prices. Tonight at 8:30pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

Rapture of the Deep Song cycle by industrial-oper atic ensemble Deus Machina, CD release party, 6pm. 111 Minna Gallery. 974-1719.

Six

Exhibition showcases six SF artists, incl. Barbara Traub, S. Brett Kaufman, William Ulrich, reception tonight 6pm. Thurs.-Sun. thru 7/6 Belcher Studios Gallery, 6 Belcher. 558-8808.

The Two-Bit Tango

Dyke detective comedy and musical extravaganza. Wed. Sun. at 8pm thru June. \$12-15. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Aboriginal Art

lanagural exhibition of gallery devoted to aboriginal art opens, didjeridoo performance, Australian wine-tasting, 6pm. Thru 8/30. Gallery Songlines, 250 Sutter. 362-8960.

Bridget Swartz

Stand-up comedy, Saturdays thru June. \$7. 8pm. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Jill Posener

Jill Posener
Photography exhibit presented by Lesbian and Gay Employee Ass'n of Levi Strauss
& Co., reception today, 5pm.
Thru 6/29. Levi Strauss
Co., 1155 Battery.
501-7349.

Latinos Unidos

Celebration of Futura's participation in 97 Pride Parad dance party. \$10. 10pm. Futura, 174 King. 665-6715.

Lavender Seniors

Potluck for gays & lesbians over 55, noon. San Leandro Comm. Church, 1395 Bancroft, San Leandro. (510) 247-2406.

Musty Chiffon

Singer/songwriter, psychedel-ic cabaret star in revue. Tues.-Sat. at 10pm thru June. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933

My Uncle Sam

Rough and Tumble in Len Jenkin's play. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 6/15. \$16-20. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. 673-1172.

Nude Discussion

"Polyamory and omni-sensu-ality," free. Senior Unlimited Nudes. 3pm. Rainbow flag,

Baker Beach. (510) 704-9600.

Nutrition Seminar HIV nutritionist Lark Lands, Ph.D. and others, sponsored by Healing Alternatives, free. 1pm. MCC, 150 Eureka.

626-4053 **Potluck Fiesta**

Grupo Socio Cultural Hispano holds potluck for Spanishspeaking gay men and friends. Call for details. 863-7087.

Roy Lichtenstein Prints

Exhibition from the Anderson Graphic Arts Collection, thru 9/14. \$7. Palace of the Le-gion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

Saints Alive

5th annual MCC/SF awards ceremony, auction, \$15. 6pm. Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 19th St. at Colling-wood. 621-2629.

Sun

Father's Day Brunch SF Leather Daddies Phillip Turner, Don Thompson pro nt brunch, \$5 benefits AIDS Emergency Fund. 11am-2pm. Daddy's, 440 Castro.

GAWK

Workshops for videomakers w/equip., rock musicians. Call for info & location. 731-2424.

Gravity

Electronic dance club presents trance/techno band. \$3. 11:30pm. Club Analog, 3089 16th St.

It's Her Business, Too Grand opening of store spe-cializing in homosexual im-

ages in antiques, collectibles Sat. & Sun., 12-5pm. 1098 Dwight Way, Berkeley (510) 845-1663. Licking the Knife:

"Exploring the Edges of Femme Gender" female con-ference, with Jewelle Gomez, Susan Stryker, Jess Wells, more. \$10-25. 9am on. Victo-ria Theater, 16th St. at Mis-sion. 552-7200. Vanity Case Billy De Herrera in no

cal extravaganza: lots of costumes, lots of wigs. Sundays at 10pm. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Mon

Art on the Front Lines "of Healing," artwork by people with life-threatening illness or disability. Mon.-Fri. thru 6/30. 4th fl., City Hall, 401 Van Ness. 255-3474.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

MC Amy Boyd, aspiring funny performers sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933. Mondo Andronicus

mondo Andronicus
Thrillpeddlers' adaptation of
Shakespeare's bloodiest
tragedy, with Helen Shumaker in Philip-Dimitri Galas'
Kleptopatra, Mc Carol Doda.
\$15. 8pm. Exit Theatre, 156
Eddy. 673-3847. One Scary Woman

Zachary Barton in torch-song cabaret. Mon.-Sat. at 8pm, Fri. & Sat. at 10pm thru 6/21. \$10-18. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. 673-1172.

Tom Lafferty Photographs: an insider's view of NYC culture, thru June. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.



The cast of *Dirty Little Showtunes!* (Trauma Flintstone, David Bicha, Eric Brizee, Tom Orr, Randy Wendelin, and Birdie-Bob Watt) returns, this time at Theatre Rhino. See Thursday.



ues

e-AIDS 2pm.

\$3.

Die Konsequenz

Film by Wolfgang Petersen in German w/English subtitles, free. Part of Magnus Hirschfeld commemoration. 6:30pm. Goethe-Institut, 530 Bush. 391-0370.

Heavenly Bodies Photographs by Richard Mis-rach, with William Wegman's

Lost & Found, thru 6/28. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661

Home Grown

The Fields of Califas, four installations of human rights in Cal. agribusiness. Thru 6/21. Galería de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Philip Knoll

Drawings and paintings, thru 7/12. Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne. 546-0158.

Quidam

Cirque de Soleil, French-Canadian circus. Tues.-Sun. thru 7/20, call for times. \$16.50-45.50. Tonight at 8pm. Jack London Square, Alice at Embarcadero, Oak-land. (800) 678-5440.

Skin

Hardcore live acts, tribal sex beats by Jism Jeff & Cougar, no drag. \$5. 9pm-2am. Load-ing Dock, 1525 Mission.

Sylvia

A canine comedy by A.R. Gurney. Tues.-Sun. thru 8/31, call for times. \$30-37. Tonight at 8pm. Marines Mem'l Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.



Hurrell's Hollywood Portraits Exhibition of prints from golden age of the Silver Screen. Wed.-Sat. thru 7/12. Photo Metro Gallery, 17 Tehama. 243-9917.

Oscar Wilde:

Diversions & Delights, John Gay's play stars Ken Ruta. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. at 2pm thru 6/29. \$20-30. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 788-9453.

Simon LeVay

Reads from his new thriller, Albrick's Gold, free. 6pm. Borders, 400 Post. 399-1633.

"The Queer Planet," astrology by Jack Fertig. Q-Spirit Men, spirituality group for gay men. \$10 sliding scale. 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 281-9377.

Various Get-ups

Comic play: two trapped in-somnia-ridden women, written and performed by Meg Mar-tin, Katie Hare. Wed. at 8pm thru 6/25. \$8-10. Exit Theatre- Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 437-1827.

Visions of Modernity: "Photographs from the Peruvian Andes 1900-1930" exhibition. Thru 8/24. \$3. Mexican Museum,—Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0404.



A Body of Time

New drawings by Iris Polos, with Disinterred, new draw-ings and sculptures by Patri-cia Sannit. Thru 6/30. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Dirty Little Showtunes Tom Orr's musical comedy romp returns, directed by John Karr and Allen Sawyer.

Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 7/27. \$15-20. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

D-L Alvarez,

New exhibitions by former Bay Area artists, thru 7/5. New Langton Arts, 1246 Fol-som. 626-5416.

End of the World Party

Play about six gay friends sharing a summer house on Fire Island. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/19. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Homo Solo Soma

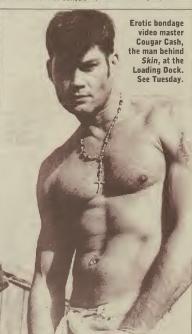
Auger monologists perform, Tonight: 7pm: Garret Jon Groenveld, Craig Landry, 9pm: Margot Lynn, Alison Wright. Thurs.-Sat. thru 6/28. \$10-12. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

I Can't Put My Finger

On It, art on sexuality and identity by Mark Paron, Mark I. Chester, Loren Cameron, more, curated by Steven Compton, thru 7/12. Luggage Store Gallery, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

Mas-Quer-Ade

Last bingo after 11 years, benefits AIDS groups. \$15



(\$2 off w/costume). 6:30pm. Coming Home Hospice Bingo Hall, 100 Diamond. 552-2127.

Memento Mori

Chrystene R. Ells and 8 twist-ed puppets in dark comedy set in dead-end carnival. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/5. \$10. Bindlestiff Studio, 185 6th St. 974-1167.

The Kinsey Sicks

THE KINSEY SICKS
Dragapella Beauty Shop
Quartet performs Everything
but the Kitsch n' Synch.
Thurs. Sun. hru 7/6, call for
times. Tonight at 8pm. \$1620. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness.
861-8972.

Out, Loud & Proud Celebration of Pride through Art, a juried exhibition, fea-tures 24 GLBT artists. Tues.&Thurs. thru 7/8. Bridge Gallery, 689 Bryant. 267-1866.

Raised by Wolves:

"Photographs and Documents of Runaway Kids by Jim Goldberg" thru 9/7. SFMO-MA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Samuel Fleming Lewis

Black-and-white drawings which reflect African art. Mon.-Fri. thru 7/15. Gensler Architecture, 600 California. 433-3700.

Shear Madness

Whodunit set in unisex hair-styling salon. Tues.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$28-32. Mason Street The-atre, 430 Mason. 982-5463.

Strip! Bare-ly Legal

Interactive theatre experience set at a male strip club. Thurs.-Sun. thru 6/29, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$29. Rococo Showplace, 165 10th St. 392-4400.

NANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials

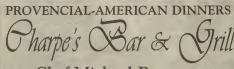
Grilled Center-Cut Pork Chops, with pineapple-sweet & sour sauce, chef's rice or mashed potatoes....950

Grilled Pacific Salmon with lemon-dill beurre blanc, fresh vegetable & chef's rice or mashed potatoes......10.75

Chicken Marsala with mushrooms, marsala wine and sour cream, served over fettucini.....

Grilled 12-oz N.Y. Steak with bearnaise sauce, onion rings and french fries or baked potato......11.95





Chef Michael Presents New Brunch & Dinner Menus

Prime Rib Special Fri. & Sat. Special 4-Course Dinner Nightly \$13.95 2nd Dinner 1/2 price with purchase of 1st Dinner

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Blazing satire

'The Mystery of Irma Vep'

by Jerry Metzker

he Mystery of Irma Vep is usually considered the greatest play Charles Ludlum ever wrote. This campy spoof of Gothic horror films premiered at New York's Ridiculous Theatrical Company in 1984 to rave reviews At resent Berkelov's Au-

cal Company in 1984 to rave reviews. At present, Berkeley's Aurora Theatre Company and the Magic Theatre are co-producing a terrific revival, co-directed by Tom Ross and Rhino veteran Danny Scheie.

In *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, actors Charles Shaw Robinson and Danny Scheie play all eight characters, including lord and lady, their two servants, an Egyptian guide, a vampire, a werewolf, and a rather vivacious and sultry and a rather vivacious and sultry mummy. Scheie plays Lady Enid, an actress with peculiar noctur-nal habits who has recently moved to Mandacrest Estate only to learn little by little of its mys-terious and dangerous secrets, not the least of which is the haunting absence of the late lady of the estate, Irma Vep. Typically, Ludlum skewers just

about everyone and everything he can, from Gothic horror tales to Shakespeare to the petty excesses of the rich and powerful. The playwright also breaks every draplaywright also oleans cier, matic convention that can possi-bly he broken while never strainbly be broken while never straining credibility. Scheie is brilliant.



Danny Scheie as Irma Vep in The Mystery of Irma Vep.

His comedic timing and physicality are tremendous. Robinson is ity are tremendous. Roomson is no slouch either in the acting department. The production has a few rough spots, but they'll no doubt be ironed out over the course of the run. The Mystery of Irma Vep continues through June 29 at the Aurora Theatre in Berkeley (call 1-510-843-4822 for tickets). It moves to the Magic Theatre (415-885-8822) for a month-long run on July 8.

Love! Valour! Saccharine!

'End of the World Party'

by Jerry Metzker

huck Ranberg's End of the World Party, a new comedy at the New Conservatory Theatre, features seven actors in various states of undress. Two of various states of undress. Two of the actors, Brian Taylor and Richard Wixo, spend most of the play exposing their ample chests. If nothing else, it is a feast for the

The play itself is Longtime Companion meets Love! Valour!

Compassion! meets Friends. Seven gay pals share a house on Fire Island for 'the summer. Most of these boys are in pursuit of love. Nick (Wixo) is looking for a series of summer quickies while thirtysomething Roger (Taylor) wants a husband. He has his sights set on the young Chip (John Steen), who has fallen for Nick (John Ferreira), Wide-eyed and overeager nas failen for Nick (John Ferreira). Wide-eyed and overeager Phil (Nick Sholley) is out to find Mr. Right, who, at least for the moment, is Travis (Brandon Nash), who is grieving the recent death of his grieving the recent death of his own companion. Finally, there is Hunter (Erick Kon-czyk), who professes not to care about marriage and romance be-cause he is sick of being disap-

Ranberg writes television sit-coms (*Frasier*), and though he clearly has a great ear for the gay bon mot and the snappy rejoinder, his command of theatrical values

is less sure. The characters are two-dimensional, the relationships between them seemingly incidental, and the dramatic action barely exists. In place of narrative development, each character gives a monologue directly to the audi-

Mostly, though, the play is just so much spun sugar. Director Ed Decker and the largely crack cast do a great job riding the play's many comic waves. Rob Vogt designed the workman-like sets and lighting, and with the support of Laurie Baker-Flynn, the cast is perfectly dressed throughout. If you leave your head at home, End of the World Party can be a lot of fun.

End of the World Party continues through July 19 at the New Conservatory Theatre. Call (415) 861-8972 for tickets



Brian Taylor, John Ferreira, Richard Wixo in End of the World Party

OPEN 9:00 am to 2:00 am DAILY (FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ALL NIGHT.)

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Rania Ho, Steve Park, and Michael Lopez in Gravity Falls From Trees

Quantum leaps

'Gravity Falls From Trees' and 'Sylvia'

by Chad Jones

cience is being turned on its ear, dramatically speaking, on San Francisco stages. Down at the Magic Theatre, the Asian American Theater Compa-Asian American Theater Company is ushering in its 24th season with the world premiere of Sung J. Rno's *Gravity Falls From Trees*, a lyrical musing on the 1983 downing of Korean Airlines Flight 007 and Sir Isaac Newton's discovery of the fourth law of motion. And over at the Marines Memorial Theatre, A. R. Gurney's *Sylvia* features a dog that defres the laws of nature by talking.

Though its head is full of Newtonian science, the heart of Rno's *Gravity Falls From Trees* is full of emotion and literal flights of fancy. Set in a netherworld hospi-

fancy. Set in a netherworld hospital, a sort of Purgatory General, fancy. Set in a netherworld hospital, a sort of Purgatory General, Gravity begins with a young Korean-American woman's inability to warm up. Her temperature is a tell-tale 74.7 degrees. Her bumbling doctor can't find anything wrong, so he X-rays the manuscript she clings to as she sleeps. Meanwhile, the orderly, Ike, wanders in and out keeping watch on the bizarre proceedings.

Soon enough, themystery ends and the players reveal their true identities. The orderly is really Isaac Newton, who is desperately searching for the answers behind the downing of the Korean passenger jet because he knows that the result of that tragedy— all 269 people aboard killed, their bodies never recovered — will reveal the elusive fourth law of motion.

The doctor is no doctor at all. He's the navigator from Flight 007, and the young woman, who defied gravity by flying from her Midwest home to Soviet airspace, witnessed the bombing of the passenger jet.

home to Soviet airspace, witnessed the bombing of the passenger jet. What initially seems avant-garde about Rno's 70-minute work ulti-mately becomes somewhat pre-dictable and overexplained, but

dictable and overexplained, but before it reaches its rather programmatic conclusion, the play uncovers some beautiful passages about flight and emotion.

As directed by Karen Amano, Gravity Falls From Trees is a textured, gorgeously produced tone poem that avoids pretension through expert performances and an unabashed enthusiasm for the easy laugh. Steve Park, so memo-easy laugh. Steve Park, so memoeasy laugh. Steve Park, so memorable as an Asian Minnesotan with more than a few loose screws in the Coen brothers' Fargo, turns in an expertly crafted performance and more than a little celebrity glow. As the doctor/navigator, Park knows his way around a comic routine, and he infuses his laughs with compassion. Rania Ho as the patient and Michael Lopez as Isaac Newton strike just the right balance between the play's science and poetry.

ry.

The performances are highlighted by Rick Martin's excellent
scenic and lighting concepts, and
Tony Kelly's intriguing sound design — from the rumble of airliners to the rustle of wind in a
maple tree to gentle hip-hop jazz
— gives the stunning visuals a lilting soundtrack.

Doggy do

Doggy do

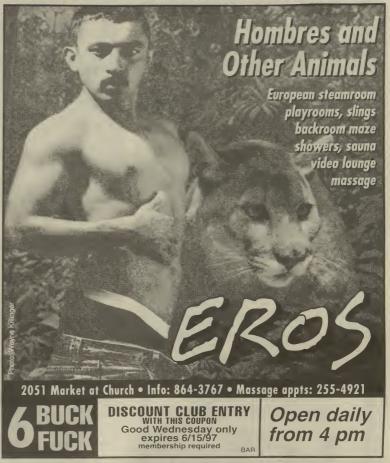
Where Gravity is seriously artistic, A.R. Gurney's Sylvia is slight and fluffy. The play itself—menopausal man finds dog, man adopts dog, dog comes between man and wife, man must choose between dog and wife—is clever enough for a short one act. But Gurney is intent on giving his audience a two-hour play, so he stretches his comedy until it strains on the end of a very short leash. The saving grace of this production is the strength of the performances, especially Kellie Waymire's as the title character, a golden retriever with a hint of French poodle.

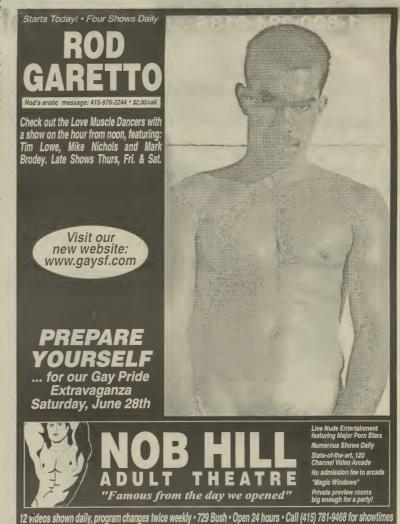
Waymire's Sylvia, a dog who can speak Gurney's upper-crust English and be understood by her human compartiots, is a masterful creation and Waymire is nearful

English and be understood by her human compatriots, is a masterful creation, and Waymire is nearly note-perfect in her comic delivery. Dan Hiatt is equally good in a trio of roles: Tom, a fellow dog-lover and advice spewer; Phyliss, a society matron who inspires Sylvia to some hilarious leg-humping; and Leslie, a gender-free marriage counselor. As the warring spouses, William Anton and Jane Carr are sturdy, but their characters are sturdy, but their characters are straight out of a TV sitcom. The light humor of *Sylvia* is just

The light numor of sylvim's just right for the rapidly approaching dog days of summer, but anyone going to this show expecting inventive playwriting will be disappointed. In the end, Sylvia is just so much doggerel.

Gravity Falls From Trees continues at the Magic Theatre through June 22. Call 441-8822 for information. Sylvia continues at the Marine Memorial Theatre. Call 771 6900 for information





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A leathery summer

by Mister Marcus

he denizens of the leather world will not be wanting for adventure in the coming weeks. Groups, clubs and individuals are offering everything from leather contests to uniform balls—and even a fling or two with mud—in the U.S., Canada and overseas. Listed below is just a sampling of the action you might want to check out. If by chance you happen to find yourself in one you happen to find yourself in one of these locations, let loose and savor the leather lifestyles prac-

Beginning next weekend, June 13-15, Atlanta takes the spotlight with Southeast Leatherfest '97, which boasts a weekend price tag of \$75 for the regular or \$95 for the deluxe package. Highlights include the Mr./Ms. Georgia clude the Mr./Ms. Georgia Leather contest on Saturday and the Mr. Southeast Drummer competition on Sunday. There'll be a vendor fair, workshops, demos, play parties, a fashion show, bar tours and a victory party. Action takes place at the Ramada Inn Downtown (1.800-Ramada) (1-800-Ramada)

(1-800-Ramada).
Leather legend Pat Califia will lead two workshops, and Shan Carr will entertain at the contests. Thanks to outgoing Mr. Georgia Leather Leonard Sewell and Ms. Georgia Leather Khiki for all their fine work.

In SF, both the SFGDIs and The 15 Asthe sociation are staging weekend runs, June 12-15. The 15 affair is

called Bootcamp IX, and it's already sold out! The GDIs are calling theirs "Boot Camp, Nuts & Butts" (\$69 price tag). It takes place at the Triple R up at the RushRiv. No other details furnished at my deadline. It's also Gay Pride in Washington, D.C., and Baltimore.

The Valley Knights MC of Sacramento stages its 21st anniversary run to French Meadows, June 20-22, \$65. Call Mike Walker at 916/455-1696 for info.

On Saturday, June 21, in New York, it's the 14th Annual Leather Pride Night Auction. On Sunday, June 22, it's the first annual Fol-som Street East soirée, 1400-1900, on 13th Street between 9th Av enue and Washington Street. Enjoy food, drink, live entertain-ment at this GMSMA event that



Intl. Mr. Drummer Kyle Brandon is hosting the July 4th "Gathering of Eagles" weekend.



Mr. Gulf Coast Drummer Ken Claude (Houston) was chosen May 17 at the Dallas Eagle. He's the first Drummer regional winner of 1997

benefits the G/L Anti-Violence Project. Contact GMSMA (212) 727-9878 or e-m gmsma@ability.net.

msma@ability.net.
Also on June 22: the Los Angeles Gay Freedom Parade and Fair in West Hollywood!
On the weekend of June 27-28, the International Master & Slave Contest will be heating up Denver. Register Friday at the Ramada Inn (1050 E. Colfax). On Saturday at 2000, it's the contest itself at Ye O'Matchmaker on Humboldt Street. Thanks, Morana and Michael, for a fun year!

gana and Michael, for a fun year! On Friday, June 27, the Phoenix Uniform Club's annual

Uniform & Leather Ball in the Green Room of the War Memori-al Bldg. (McAllister and Van Ness), 2000-2400. The \$50 ticket Ness), 2000-2400. The \$50 ticket will get you a lavish buffet, adult beverages and City Swing featuring Gail Wilson. Uniform mavens from around the world will be in attendance! Get your ticket now (or pay \$60 at door) by calling 415/552-3699 or e-mail: sfleatherball@aol.com.

July looks adventurous, too!
The Seventh Annual Internation-The Seventh Annual International Mr./Ms. Deaf Leather contest at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri, kicks off on July 3 at 1900. Daniel and Cool Cat pass the sashes. Contact Bob Donaldson at 614/478-1631 TTY or e-mail: bobdonald@aol.com.

The July 4th "Gathering of Eagles" weekend in Berwyn neart.

The July 4th "Gathering of Ea-gles" weekend in Berwyn near Philly is hosted by IM Drummer Kyle Brandon. The Who's Who of Leatherdom will be flown in (on him!) for a weekend of grazing, eating, drinking, networking, etc. Plus \$1000 donation to the invi-tees' fave charities! By invite only! Trés chic!

Also on the 4th: the World Championship Mud Pillowfights in Kenwood, Calif., 60 miles north of SF, begin at 0900 with contestants from around the world. This one is extremely hot! Don't miss the Cal Eagles MC's

July 11-13 weekend run to Sarato-ga Springs for \$115, with the usual amenities, suspects and a "Soaring Eagles" theme. Call 267-0560 or e-mail: Cal Eagles@aol.com

The Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drum-mer contest at the Baltimore Eagle on Saturday, July 12, is bound to be exciting. It's Allen Grim's last show. He's moving to Florida to be a slave. Hi, Alan Selby!

International Ms. Leather will be chosen in San Diego the week-end of July 17-20. All judges are in place for the Saturday night com-petition at Spreckles Theatre, and the weekend will feature a vendor the weekend will feature a vendor fair, play parties, victory brunch and a paean to the fabulous Jill Carter. The *full* weekend package is \$80 chargeable to MC, Visa, Discover and AmEx. Call 402/451-7987 or fax 402/457-5350. E-mail: imsl@synergy.net. More on this one later!

On Wednesday Lilly 23, Mr. SF.

On Wednesday, July 23, Mr. SF Drummer will be chosen at Daddy's. The winner competes at

Daddy's. The winner competes at the Northern California Drum-mer event later this year. On Saturday, July 26, Club MUD up at Rio Nido stages its big Mud Fest beginning at high noon! Contact Brother Duke at P.O. Box 277, Rio Nido, CA 95471. The same day in Los Angeles, Mr. Southern California Drum-mer will be chosen at the Fault-

mer will be chosen at the Fault-line. Details coming!



The late Mitch Johnson won the cover spot on a previous SoMa Bare Chest Calendar. The '97 cover man will be chosen at the Fagle June 19.

On Sunday, July 27, it's the Dore Alley Fair between 9th and 10th sts. on Folsom. Over 6,000 of the faithful made it last year, and 1997 promises to be even bigger!

Mr. Rocky Mountain/Southers Burger Days and Mr.

Mr. Rocky Mountain/South-west Drummer in Denver and Mr. New England Drummer in Boston will be chosen on August 3. Also, the Mr./Ms. Alameda County Leather contests at the Turf Club in Hayward. The following Saturday, August 10, Mr. Florida Drummer will be selected in Fort Lauderdale.

Hey, there's more, but that gives you a taste of what's out there! Updates will follow! In the meantime, if you're traveling in the new few weeks, be sure to pack your leathers! ▼



IMs.L Jill Carter will sash he successor in San Diego July 19.

Spontaneous ejection

ell, as was reported in last week's Out There col-umn, I was *not* the win-ner of the Mr. Lone Star '97 con-test. That honor belongs to Mr. test. That honor belongs to Mr. David Rape, who certainly is one helluva hunk of man. (David, when you're prowling the Polkstrasse, do drop by the Rendezvous for a Sweet Lips special.) I loved being a contender – if just for the opportunity of cozying up to the likes of Gino Pucino (see photo). Corre' gay lision in SE photo), Coors' gay liaison in SF. This Adonis has the most fragrant pits in town!

However, I must take issue with one item in **Otter Outrage**'s otherwise flawless reportage. I didn't fall out of a car on my way home; rather, I was forcibly ejected by mysterious unseen forces. The incident is still under investigation, and I'm currently taking depositions from a long list of sus



Thom Guni

Speaking of the Lone Star, during a slow morning on the plank at the PR (they happen), I was thumbing through the May 26 New Yorker when I came across a poem by SF leather daddy/literary lion **Thom Gunn** entitled "Front Bar of the Lone Star"! The opening lines contain a thinly veiled paean to the charms of one Ms. **Greta Grass**, and the rest of the opus concerns changing fashions Greta Grass, and the rest of the opus concerns changing fashions and attitudes. Loved that last line: "The democracy of it: eventually everyone can hope for a turn at being wanted." And loved seeing one of my favorite boites immortalized! Good going, Thom!

Everyone's invited to help Tyler celebrate his 37th birthday on Friday, June 13 (yikes!), 4-8 p.m., upstairs at Kimo's stupendous new showroom. The soirée

dous new showroom. The soirée will feature the considerable talents of **Xerena**, the black **Marilyn**



Cocktail Hour

Sweet Lips gets a whiff of Gino Pucino

Monroe, and Dennis "Crumpets and Croquettes" Tyler will be performing culinary feats of magic. (Hope your Key West vacation was fab, Tyler. Your bon voyage party certainly was!)

It seems like only yesterday, but Reflections (1160 Polk) will be celebrating its 10th anniversary on Sunday. June 15. 6 a.m. - 2 a.m.

Yes, it will be a scintillating all-day affair with drink specials, raffle drawings and a buffet by Dennis "Ziti and Zucchini" Tyler. Last Monday

night, after en-joying several pitchers of mar-

garitas (blended avec salt, of course) with friends at Puerto course) with friends at Puerto Alegre, I sauntered over to the al-ways fun Elbo Room (647 Valen-cia) and ambled upstairs to "Corazon" and danced my mara-cas off! The music was hot and so were the boy-boy, girl-girl, boy-girl couples (not to mention some threesomes). Sweet Lips sez check it out on Blue Mondays. Baile, halle haile! haile haile!

Bound for Alabama: Dick Cook of Reflections and Daniel of the Cinch are leaving for the Heart of Dixie on June 15 for a week with the ineffable **Dolly Dale** and her wonderful mom, **Agnes**. Bring the mosquito net-

Agnes. Fing the hosquito heting, boys!
For all those who've inquired,
David Kelsey is still tickling the
ivories to great acclaim at the P.S.
Bar, and of course, Rachel (aka
Richard) is still pouring stiff

ones!
Homo on the range: Don't miss the Ms. Cowgirl campaign kickoff party/beer bust for Robert DeJacino (aka Savannah) at the Polk Rendezvous on Saturday, June 14, noon-4 p.m.,

\$6. Golly, I can remember when I won Ms. Cowgirl II years ago, and the tumbleweeds were blowing down Polk Street. My fringe got caught in my spurs, and it was days before I could stand completely ungit begoing I have bed to

days before I could stand com-pletely upright again! They had to cut me loose with a welding torch! Tips From La Lips: When out promenading in the Castro, do drop in at The Exit. The employ-ees are tops, and the cusees are tops, and the customers are a trip – fantastic and friendly. If you're in the mood for more substantial fare, try

Charpe's Grill
(131 Gough).
The dinners are vummy, and

The dinners are yummy, and Sunday brunch there is always a treat. Plus, one of my favorite Disastro haunts is Brand X Antiques (570 Castro). The queens who run the place are a talkative two-some, and their merchandise is intriguing, varied and reasonably priced. Otter Outrage picked up four '50s cappuccino glasses there for a song and says they look splendid in his Eddy Street abode. Bulletin! June is such a gay

splendid in his Eddy Street abode.
Bulletin! June is such a gay month here in old Faghdad by the Bay. Be sure to mark your calendars in red for the 21st San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, which opens Friday, June 20, and closes Sunday, June 29. The flicks and videos are screening at the Castro, the Victoria and the Roxie, so get your tickets now by calling 415/703-8663! Also, I hope you're girding your loins for Gay Pride Week, which of course culminates with the big parade/extravaganza on Sunday, June 29. Greta and I wilbe out with our Polaroids snapping all the beef on the hoof for ping all the beef on the hoof for posterity's sake! If you happen to see us, don't be afraid to flash some flesh!

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EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Inursday, June 12
Mr. December 1998, the final spot on the SoMa
calendar, will be chosen tonight at the Eagle at
2200. Win \$100! Fame! Perhaps a new hubby!
Big Basket contest at The Edge at 2200. Win
big \$ just for showing your God-given assets. Emceed by Danny Williams. How's the Old Bag?
Butt-rageous contest at Daddy's. Win prizes and
have fun with Daddy Loren Berthelson at around

Free and anonymous STD checkups upstairs at 933 Harrison at 2200. Courtesy of Blow Buddies and the SF Health Dept.

SF Leather Pride Float design winner announced at Daddy's beer bust, 1900-2300.

Saturday, June 14
Defenders MC's beer bust at the Lone Star Saloon, 1500-1900, for only \$6. Sendoff for Victoria at Turf Club in Hayward with \$6 beer bust (\$8 with

food). The theme is "An Afternoon in the Garden of Good and Evil." $\,$

Sunday, June 15

Father's Day brunch (\$5) at Daddy's, 1100-1400, with a glass of bubbly to benefit AEF.
Also Father's Day beer bust at SF Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8, food. Emceed by Irvin Kane. Replete with auction of some of SF's hottest boys for dinner dates to benefit AEF and Godfather Fund.

Wednesday, June 18

Leathermen's Discussion Group at 1930. Subject: "Coming Out to Leather." It's free! Call 626-3747

Friday, June 20

The Exiles meet for NAL workshop at the Women's Bldg., 1930-2230. Call 487-5170 for cost and lo-

Also, free and anonymous HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison, 2200 to 0030.



The Phoenix Uniform Club's Annual Uniform & Leather Ball Friday June 27, 8 - Midnight
Hosted Bar and Buffet Dinner in the SF Civic Center Area

Featuring Gail Wilson and City Swing

Donations: \$50 advance \$60 at door Mail orders before June 3 to: P.O. Box 31699 San Francisco, CA. 94131 For Information Call:

Tickets Available May 17 at: Leather Zone Mr. S. Leathers Leather Masters - San Jose Worn Out West, 2nd Level Image Leather

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PARTING GLANCES

Sat. May 17, Market & Sanchez You: black and white tank top, convertible. Me: shorts, no shirt, walking. Three smiles. You didn't stop. Why? 12 6401.

Loading Dock On Sat 4/19
You: muscle guy w/brown hair &
mustache. Me: nice-looking, Asian
chatting with some fat old guy.
Please call me!! 22 6402.

G-Spot 5/17

You: gorgeous, short dark hair, white tank, black bra, arm wrestling at the bar, smiled at me but kissed the other blond, are blond, aqua tank, ripped 501's. Call me. 22 6403.

Soho, Before Mothers' Day
We were joking about cards for deep
South Mothers' Day, you: sleeveless
"For Aerobics Only" shirt. I should've
asked for your number or you for
mine. 29 6404.

Duncans Mills 5/13-Black Truck
We nodded to each other as I turned
onto Moscow Rd. 6:45. Me: in white
van. Want to meet?

2 6405.

Hey! Danny R. From Big Mama's I heard you were still in SF. Remember "Let's watch TV." Ex-husbands #2 and #3 passed—Let's keep in touch #1! John John. \$\alpha\$ 6406.

5/17 Beerbust Badlands
Bill this is Dan, you were with a
friend. I was sitting at the bar and
you bought me a beer. I would like to
get with you.

6407.

Sunday May 11th
We sat at adjacent tables eating
lunch at la Mediterranean. I was
reading Rebecca. You were about to
travel to Paris and Amsterdam. Care
to meet? 22 6501.

Red Blazer Sat Aftrnn Castro You: passenger, blk, strikingly hot. you were leaving. Me: wht guy with shorts & head rag. Been noticing each other lately. Get hard thinking about you! Please call. 22 6502.

SF Muni Sun 5/25 10:15 PM You: BM, mustache, got on at Castro. Me: WM, beard, bomber jacket, got off at Church St. We looked; we smiled. Wanna meet? 22 6503.

Causing A Stir At Baker Beach Sat., 5/24, pecs, piercing, and black lab, wowl Your greeting and easy grin answered my smile. Scaling the hill, hoping for more, imagined you saw me looking forlor as your Rodeo pulled away. But did you? 120 6601.

Safeway Chrch/Market 5/27 7PM You: baseball cap, yellow checked shirt, untucked over jeans. Me: taller blond, gray polo, black jeans/knap-sack. You, 3 smiles and beautiful; me, too shy to tell you! \$\omega\$ 6602.

Desperately Seeking Nancy
You and Tony met Jim and I. We
were going to have steaks. We returned you were gone. Both of us dis
appointed I would like to see you
again. Please call Roger. \$\oldsymbol{2}{\oldsymbol{6}}\oldsymbol{6}603.

Frank Daddy From "My Place" Memorial weekend, this boy chewed your tits, held your balls, sucked your cock, gave you my card. My privilege to serve. Please call. 22 6604.

Floorcraft Garden May 28
You were coming I was leaving with a friend, we said Hi, eyes met. You very handsome (khaki pants, blue polo).
Me: gray T and shorts. Call & talk.
20 6605.

Guerneville—Sun. Afternoon 6/1
You: white, wearing plaid shorts, day pack, crossing river rd. at Armstrong woods rd. Me: black guy in white Dodge truck turning onto river rd. I would love to meet you. 22 6606.

Mike At Nob Hill Cinema 5/28 Loved kissing with you. You had cough and had to get water. I had to go. Would love to do more kissing. Rod. \$2 6608.

Cafe Flore Mon. 6/2 2:30 PM You Asian, glasses. Me: white, blue/gray cap with "A." We exchanged smiles, but you were with friend. Let's talk. № 6609. June 1 @ Market St. Safeway You: faded red T, jeans, short hair. Me: just moved, buying lots. You asked if it was for a couple months. Would like to hook up. @ 6611.

Daly City BART Sun 6/1 7PM handsome, balding, goated guy with yellow walkman. I'm the brown haired guy in shorts with a red day pack you sat next to. What an incredible sensation. We must meet. 120 6607.

Laurel Village Fri. May 30
We noticed each other in the grocery store then again as you left parking lot. You: Jeep. Me Jetta. Care to meet for coffee. \$\omega\$ 6612.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

New Hopes And Dreams
Single of 2 years looking for GW M,
35-45, for exploring back roads, the
ater, travel and more. Must tolerate
cats. Myself, chunky, 36 yr Asian,
HIV-, down to earth. 12 6408.

You: Anywhere 40+ Skg Mate GWM, 36, 5'10', 175, cln shvn, glasses, brn-balding, H2L. Average build, honest, loving, F/T student w/bright future. Likes hiking, camping, swimming, cooking, movies, beaches, homelife (nurs) 4 Amybing.

Not Pacific Heights Millionaire Am passionate, romantic, GWM (43, 5'11', 1904'). Former university professor, new to SF wishes to meet other GM for friendship, fun, companionship. Clean-shaven graduate student type with stender to medium built a plus. 42 6411.

Spousal Material
Bedroom eyed, 6'2 1/2", 205#, HIV-, GBM, articulate, emotionally connected, great kisser, excually openminded. Prefer 30-45, in shape, great looks, NS/ND, emotionally available.

Attractive Latino 26 I'm 5'7", 170, muscular, masculine, student seeking HIV+ guys, Latinos or whites under 35 for friendship maybe more. NS and broadminded only. № 6413.

Not Endowed Or A Greek God But a stable, slim, smooth, fit, early 50's, professional GWM and an enthusiastic bottom. We are open minded, HIV-, NS/ND and you are 40's, 50's, any race and ready. 22 6414.

Romantic Candlelight Dinner Looking for a good-looking Latino for relationship GWM, 30, good-looking 140#, looking for a machismo Latino for LTR, must be HIV-, 20-30, goatee and skinny +. 20 6415.

Olympic Cocksucking Overkill: Rules require competing cocksucking teams to swallow results. But why else suck dick? I wanna swallow your loads by the mouthful: Nature's ultimate gournet protein. Far cheaper than mere caviar! \$\Displays 6416.

Brawny Guy 150 Gemulichkeit Euromutt smoker, 5'11", 190#, stache, hairy likes gym workouts with tongue shower. Wks swing/grave yd shift. D0U? Be 25-40, in shape, HIV+, liking stinky man sex & lattes. № 6417.

The Least You Owe Your Dick Is to be sure it's never sucked by less than a USFCCS (United States Federally Certified Cock Sucker). Warning mere state certification may not be enough! Demand proof of USFCCS.

6418.

I Could Write A Book!
Tired of phony California attitude?
HIV+, 5'11', 145'#, mustache,
sense of humor, good heart, spiritual.
Health & mind getting better. Seeks
friends of??? Please be sincere!!!
6419.

Best Friend
HIV+, top, 5'8", 135#, 45, brn/hzl,
mustache, strong character, quick
witted is looking for a stocky HIV+
bottom who is passionate, loyal, and
independent. Call me if you want to
share adventures.

6420.

Leather Partner
Submissive, hot, leather bottom, ISO booted leather top for SM, as well as cuddling, romance, and long/short weekend trips. 22 6421.

Love Buddy Wanted WM, 44, 5'9", 160, brown/brown, furry, POZ, (nature & art are my spiritual resource), seeks down to earth, hip & hairy cool Daddy with strong lust for life and it's sensual pleasures (LTR?). 26 6422.

1 GAM/GHM Submissive Wnted Companionship & sensuous play. Me: 30, beety, bld/bl, masc, carring, experienced. Turn-offs: sex-only relationship; leather-uniforms; bars. Turnors: authentic, imperfect persons; monogamy. Please be around 18-26. Limits respected. Inexperienced OK. 26 6423.

Handsome Muscular Italian GWM, 38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times. Seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. № 6424.

Are You A Trim Hirsute?
39, 6′, 170#, HIV+, milk-man has a 8″ cut, downward-sloping hose ready to milk with big head down your throat. I sit back, relax while you slowly milk it dry. 22 6425.

HIV+ Asian Artist Sks Soulmate Good-looking 40yo sks GWM & GAM, 30-45 yo. I'm 5'6", 130#, very muscular. Enjoy movies, theater, books and outdoor activities. You must be intelligent, loving, good-looking w/same interests. S 6426.

Black Male Sks White Boyfriend Gdlkng GBM, 31, 6/, 195#, med built, Sincere, honest, nice personality sking gdlkng GWM (Top), 27-35, w/nice personality Is sincere, honest, nice body. Sking someone in San Jose area or surrounding areas. Must be masculine acting and clean for LTR. 292 6427.

Black Man Short Dreads
Beard, 40, 61", HIV-, sks friends.
Musclian, music teacher, masseur &
gardener. NID/NS/NDr. Vegetarian,
into spiritual practices & simple living. I live in the footbills of Mendocino county. Visit ≤5 rocasionally. Not
looking for sex buddy. ☎ 6428.

A Good Guy Seeks Same Decent, honest, stable guy, love outdoors, working out, romance, oldfashioned values, 26, GAM, 5'8", 135#, ISO similar good guy, GWM, 23-30. № 6430.

Romance In This Lifetime Attractive African-American male, 6', 155#, toned body, great smile 150 long-term love affair with dreamy, sexy, healthy, smart gay San Franciscan male. Romance in this lifetime can be ours! \$\text{20}\$ 6431. Lay Back And Enjoy Attractive GBM, 40's, HIV-, 5'10", 163#, sweet dick seeks GWM, 50 to 65, to lay back & enjoy love made to his big dick, 7 1/2" to 9", for hours. The best, you will ever have.

4432.

Like Short Men Your 5'6" to 5'8", 30 to 40's, fun loving and man of color. Jim, BM, 43, 6'1", 170#, handsome, hung, top. Let's talk. ☎ 6433.

Attractive Latino Good-looking Latino, 5'7", 150#, HIV-, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, likes running, hiking, movies, looking for GWM for friendship or maybe more between 25-37yo. Enjoy quality of life. Call me. S 6434.

Professional type good-looking GWM, 40's, seeks same, HeightWeight proportioned. Any age. HIV-. Let us make it for friendship for now. Get to know each other through companionship. Be serious, give friendship a real try. \$\oldsymbol{2}\$ 6504.

Got A Rod! Catch A Pisces
Bottom, HIV+, HM, 27, 5'5",
170#, fun, sincere, cute, pierced, tattooed, seeks masculine top w/HM,
25-35, for cuddling, kissing, movies
and more.

26505.

Intensive Cardiac Therapy
GAM, professional, inoculated with
good looks and contagious smile
needs TLC. Prescriptions for treatment to include a sincere man who is
well-grounded, open-minded and fun.
Report symptoms of heart palpitations STAT. Further intensive care
may be needed. 22 6506.

Sincere-Honest-Lovable & Cute SGWM, early 40's, good-looking, easygoing: 6' tall, dk blind., blue eyes; seeking guy under 36. SGWM, clean-cul, humorous, communicative, handsome, and open to a relationship. Blend talents for mutual good. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6507.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to
worship masc, verbal topman, over
40, wgt proportion. Cauc or Asian.
2608.

Seeking Attractive Asian I'm good-looking WM, 41yrs, HIV-, 5'6", 140#, enjoys golf, travel, bowling and quiet times. Seeks Asian male, 18-37, weight in proportion, for friendship and possible LTR. 129 6509.

Is Yours The "Prick Perfect"? Lucky you! But for me, any dick will do that shoots a real mouthful tosavor/swallow. So I've become a world class cocksucker, enjoy the difference! Sooner is better. 22 6510.

Hot Man Seeks Mate Into JO
Attractive, adventurous, GWM, 41, 5'8", 142#, slim, muscular body, buzz cut, short beard, hung 8 1/2", fuzzy butt, NS, HIV+, and healthy. Your into JO, nudity, 35-50, in shape, interested in relationship. Let's connect. © 6511.

Handsome Dad Type
Straight looking 50, 5'10", 190#, healthy HIV ISO sidekick over 353.
Be masculine & mostly bottom for uncut fun. Many interests. Equal opportunity emp.

6512.

Handsome Top Classic good looks, fit, blond/blue, 41, HIV-, successful, confident, dynamite personality, athletic, passionate Looking for similar (bottom) 32-40, attractive, masculine, in good shape. 22 6513.

Asian/Latin Boyfriend Wanted WM, 44, 5'9", 155, HIV+, loves fun, outdoors, dogs, music, cooking, movies, TV, reading, home, fireplace hiking, bicycle, star gazing, staying healthy, laughing, having sex, sleeping, seek happy riend, companion, partner. 20 6514.

I'm Boyfriend Material SGWM, 46, 5'9", 155#, German-Irish, gr eyes, bald buzz, goatee, nonmainstream guy, fun, spirited, NS/ND. Enjoy nature, drives on weekends, playful persons 30-40's. 22 6613.

E. Bay Dad Seeks Mate GWM, 51, bearded, 5'8", 165#, German, blond, big thick swantz, seeks soulmate bottom into bare bacl riding, HIV+, halry++. \$\old{2}\$ 6614.

Better Health Thru Cocksucking Your loads are nature's best protein, maximized by my expert cocksucking Swallowing them achieves superior nourishment for me via superior pleasure for you. I suck you off for my health! \$\omega\$ 6615.

Why I'm Your Best Cocksucker
1. Don't care if dicks are small. 2. Do care that loads are large. 3. My superior techniques enhance loads. 4.
Your most elegant personal proteins actually fuel my better cocksucking from within.

616.

Chunky Daddy Seeks Chasers GWM, 66, 5'8", 190#, brn hair & eyes. Seeks young slim Aslans or Latin tops, 18-28. Love to suck. № 6617. Occupation: Cocksucker
Not your most exclusive U.S. census
category. But I get to swallow your
load, fresh/hot/direct from factory
(beats caviar). And you get maybe
your best blow job yet! \$\omega\$ 6618.

To Douglas From Japanese Man
I have miscopied your tel# 558-?
Please call again. I'd like very much
to meet you. 12 6619.

Would Love To Share My Flat In Noe Valley w/my all "Natural" man, Possibly European. Me: 44, 49er & country music fan. Do you love gardens? I go to the gym. №

Summer Fun 4 GAM?
GWM, 40's, seeks GAM, 30's+ for
playful summer companionship
(LTR?). I'm 6'2", 190, and prefer
trim educated Asian with sense of
humor & style. Dining, music, theater
or?? Call me! 120 6622.

Mirror Has Two Faces
SL Transsexual 30, HIV-, 5'5'',
160#, attractive, very feminine ISO
attractive, masc males, who are very
fit & prof. & willing to except pre-opt
lifestyle. No femmes. 22 6623.

Handsome Hunky GAM
Seeks similar for friendship. Me: 33, 5'9", 173#, gym-toned, You: 30-40 hunky-muscular, easy-going, casual. 22 6624.

Looking In East Bay
LM, 30, 5'10", 175#, bottom, drk
hair & eyes, mass, good-looking, nice
body. ISO HIV-, masc men, 2540,
top, good-looking with fit nice body
for friendship. Poss LTR. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6625.

Senior To Senior SWM, 68, retired, 5'10", 200#, NS, light drinker in search of senior for friendship and LTR. Medium to heavier build OK. 12 6626.

59 GWM ISO Shy Sweet Manboy 30's to 40's, for steady flame, must be natural, cuddly, kisser, romamic, free thinker, slight build, long hair a plus. I am bright, intense, affectionate, sexy runner's legs, exquisite touch.

Hairy Man Seeks Top 36 year old, sexy, hairy Latino bottom with hairy ass seeks dominant top with hot tongue for sex and more. 22 6628,

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Group Gang Bang
Attractive GWM, threesome, professional, athletic, height/weight proportionate, between the ages of 25-45, are looking for a select group of men with similar characteristics. Be fantasy oriented. HIV- & versatile. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6435.

Good-looking Oral Bottom In shape oral bottom looking for some BD fun. 32 yr, GWM, 6′, 170 €, muscular/swimmer's build. Clean shaven, smooth and well hung, looking to meet GWM top, 30-36 yr, into safe BD play. № 6436.

Just Shut-Up And Ride! 32, WM, 5'10", 200#, blond/blue muscle hunk wants good-looking, masculine men to pump me full of squirt.—Anytime. Call now. 120 6438.

Special Young Man Sought By sexy, mature GWM, 73, 5'8", 165#, for lots of hopefully ongoing exciting times. You are gdlkg, 18-40, HIV-, and enjoys doing it with an older man. № 6439.

When I'm In Bed With Someone I Like to roll them over on their stomach & look at their butl, buch, squeeze, massage, tickle, probe, spank & screw it. Me: oral top, attrac, GWM, 46, 65°, lookall build, 250#. You: attrac, GWM, 18-35, slim, smth/mod. body hair, nice buns. 22 6440.

Chubby Chaser Scores Big Time I am handsome big bear, Funny & humorous, Sensitive & warm. Kind & gentle. Likes skinny rubber people who are learning to shave now. South San Francisco, near airport. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6441.

Sex First, Talk Later
39, 5'11", 170#, brn/brn, goatee,
hairy body and already in a relationship. Looking for additional buddles for passionate kissing, sucking & fucking. Be in-shape, 25-45. Daytime/some nights. Singles/Couples OK. 122 6457. Plunge, Pump & Unload Italian whore, 44, 6', 200#, goatee stud—horny all the time. Pound my manhole & empty your balls deep In my pussy. Need your cock & cum!

6442.

Latino Men
With big cocks cum pound my tasty
white boy butt. Hard & raw. Will re
spond to all. 28yo, 150#. 22 6443.

Public Service Announcement Back when most guys wanted their cocks sucked, too few suckers, now that most guys have become sucker too few suckees. Oh well, For your next blow job call, 22 6444.

Body And Soul
Happiness is the key part of my life
that I hold true. Versatile and attrac
tive black man wants to experience
pure affection.

6445.

East Bay Pleaser Ready & Able To make you explode! Local tops (or wannabes) wanted by slim, smooth 40's Oakland WM for really hot oral and anal sessions. On going service for easy-access, atitudeless, friendly, fun, or??? 22 6446.

Hot Sweaty Sex Only
Very cute, white bottom buy, 24,
5'11", 160#, seeks discreet encour
ters with a dominant, top in-shape
man with his own place for hot sex.
Call! @ 6447.

Hot Animal Sex Good-looking butt boy, 30, 5'11", slim build, ISO fit tops w/ 7"+ for fun, maybe more. HIV+, couples 0K, any race, 30-45, can be vers. S 6448.

Bttm Boy Seeks Fun, Fantasy & Friends. Smooth, 33, masculine, good-looking, blue eys, 5'11", 29 in waist looking for other young guys. Good-looking, hung tops with an extra sense of adventure. Role play etc.

6449.

You Deserve It! Hndsm Asian BB w/defined muscular Hndsm Asian BB w/defined muscular physique, smooth skin needs expert mouth, responsive ass 4 his pleasure. Want to get tied up & used senseously, mercilessly? Open to other game ideas! You: adventurous, eager & cute. 22 6450.

Hot Nasty Boys Only
For extended butt play. UB: 25-35
yo, GWM/GLM, good shape, clean
shaven. Like taking it in the rear. Me
40yo, GWM, good shape, 5'6",
145#, hot top.

6451.

Bttm Sks Probing Top Man Handsome bodybuilder, 35yo, 160#, lean naturally hairless sks probing, plowing, gentle handball. Top man should be bright, attractive, fit and skillful. 22 6452.

Smth Btm Boy Wnts 2 Srve 3-5-1 1'm 5'10 1/2", 170#, brn hair, blue eyes, submissive yet masculine, like role play. Open for new things to meet handsome in shape guys. Dominant look 30's or younger.

6454.

Looking GLM/GBM For Hot Times GWM, 44 years young (look 30's), blue/brown, 6', 148#, slim-build, gym-toned, goatee, top & HIV-. Seeking GLM/GBM, 21-50, for playmates & safe sex..

6455.

Oakland/Merrit Area Looking for top guy (Latin/White/Black) Evening/weeken quickies/or plus. I'm HIV-, 40's, WM, average 5'11", 155#, brn/blu. 12 6456.

Butthole Rocks
With your pounding fists—good-look
ing man with fresh white flesh seeks man with a beat—long and sensuous preferred. 22 6458.

Lay Back For Oral Service
SF, 45, WM is looking for 28-37,
HIV-, attractive, hairy, well bit, cut
endowed men to service at my place.
Available evenings, smokers OK. No
pagers. © 6459.

Hung Big
Hot 6', 35, 160#, good-looking allAmerican collegiate-type w/gym
toned body. Hung big seeks good-looking guys hung as big (or bigger?).

2 6460.

Seeking playmate! Kissing, stroking, oral, ball licking—just giving & receiving pleasure! Discreet, 48, HIV-, stash, nice guy, trim, sensitive nipples & well endowed. Call for shared pleasure! Uncut A+++.

6515.

Full Service Pump
Warm, gentle, affectionate, nice look
ing, GWM, 6'12", 165#, 60, HIV-,
iuliy natural bareback top seeking
gentle, caring (versatile) bottom, for
friendship/LTR. Age, race unimportant. Call. 122 6516.

Good-looking Uncut Top Classic uncut dick on a lean, trim, healthy, HIV-, 40's, GWM looking for some attention from a hungry, non-encumbering bottom. Prefer early evenings/days.

6517.

GWM, 39, Very Gdlkng Seeks gym fit buddy, HIV-, for fuck-ing & ass eating, HIV- only. I love the taste of a guy's hole. @ 6630.

Hot Man Seeks sizzling boy. WM, 5'11", 165#, wants fun with Asian/Latir 25-35, slim, must speak fluent Er. lish. Dinners, movies, dancing, tra like cats, 60-70's music. NS/ND, light drinker, 0K.

6518.

A1 Oral Service Delivered SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, deli ers complete oral service to guys wi dig getting sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. 22 6519.

Sperm Drinker
Asian and Latin cum especially swal-lowed. My soft deep throat is your sperm receptacle and also craves your hot piss. Call now for same day or night call back. 120 6520.

Big Meat Seeks Relief!
Your mouth or tight ass is the perfect
place for this hot, handsome, uncut
boyish top. You are in shape, submissive and want some fun!! \$\oldsymbol{\text{2}}\$ 6521.

Open For Business
GWM, 48, oral-anal bottom seeks
top for entry. Dicks or fists welcome.
HIV-, need to learn to be submissive.
You can do it!

6522.

ISO: Black Meat Italian whore stud, 44, 6', 195#, goatee, lives in the Castro in search of black studs to service late at night. Cum and get off! \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6523.

If You Like A Hard Ride
I've got 8 inches that will be a perfect
fit handsome top, in shape, hairy
chest, goatee wants to pump butt &
more, hot bottoms, let's get it in!

Endless Oral
Masculine, healthy, HIV+, GWM,
44, 67, 195#, 9ym, ht/wt prop.,
bald/buzz, hung, videos, Polk area,
seeks similar for mutual expert oral.
NS. Poss LTR.

6525.

Str8/Bi Curious? WM 18-22? Smooth chest? Kick it with me! Students/Jocks call now! Santa Cruz Beach Party? Rick. @ 6526.

Dad Seeks Son Masculine, in shape, Dad, 48, 6', 180#, seeks son for anal exploration light SM, BD, cuddle afterwards.

6527.

Nordic, Northern European Featured muscle guys wanted by hard body fuck enthusiast (top) for sex events. Minimum body fat demanded. 26528.

No Gag Reflex—I Swear!!
Zone out for comprehensive oral re-lief (wink, wink) from this GWM with no gag reflex and hyper salivary throat. 6472/04/Shair-challenged, big-prinned, big-hearted, and fairly big-brained nice fella. And welcome back, returnees! № 6529.

Handsome Muscular Italian Seeking handsome muscular black men for hot sex. Let's fuck and suck each other till we blow our loads. @ 6629.

Butt Eurasian Bottom Needed
Tall, white, handsome man needs cute
muscular smooth skinners, masculine
Eurasian with tight bubble ass & talented mouth, 25-30's something.

6631.

Bend Over & Drop Em, Bad Boy! Spankings for cute boys with round rumps (18-35). Must be obedient and crave humiliation—safe asshole play an option. I'm a handsome husky youthful 40. San Francisco/San Jose. 6632.

Butt Sniffers/Finger Bangers
Pitt sniffers, want select, other very
masc. firm butted dudes. Str/bi OK. 1
on 1 or group meetings.
Friendship/poss relationship. Ultimately, funky weekend camping trips
w/Sonoma Co dude. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6633.

Kick Back! GWM, 5'10", 160#, br/br, cln shaven, fun, friendly, luv to suck cock and balls. SK, masc, trim, G/W/H/A, 18-40. Couples OK. № 6634.

Wanted: Big Firm Butt
Versatile, 5'11", 23"-bullt, hung big,
needs Caucasian, 20-30's, well-built
w/big hairy bubble butt to eat.

6635.

Leather Muscle FF/ Toy Group Interviewing for top notch muscled men and boys hot for leather, toys, FF group action with ball grade A masculine guys ready for nasty fun.

San Jose-Campbell Blow Job
I'm looking for single and married
white man from 18-35, looking to
give them a great blow job. I love to
suck cock, taste cum. I know I do better job than your girlfriend or wife.
You won't be disappointed.
© 6637.

Top ISO Top 31 yo, GWM, top, 6', 165#, lean and halry. Wants to relearn how to be a bottom boy. Into leather, BD, SM, role playing. Please be patient and hot.

6638.

Romantic Michael?
You responded to my ad titled roman
tic bottom, I inadvertently stood you
up. You called again but didn't leave
your number (twice!). You are 5'7",
140. Call again! 22 6640.

Cock Play Pal-Discreet Pleasure Stroking licking, oral, kissing sensual play. GWM, 169#, brn, blue, stache, 5'11 12", in LTR seeking xtra play afternoons wkdays. HIV-, nicely en-dowed wbig cut head. Young 49, Wild like reg play buddy for frndship & fun. **29** 6642.

24hr Party Boys E.Bay Party Free Generous WM, 27, hot. I bring party favors, you bring cock. Looking for under 35 boys who want expert or al service one on one or groups. Satis-faction guaranteed. Tattoos A+.

26
6643.

I Wanna Dick GWM, 6', 180#, HIV-, NS/ND, like 6" to suck & get fucked watch movies for fun age & race no factor. Please call. 22 6644.

Serious Leather Master Needed:
By trainable GLGWM slave, 190,
511", 40 yrs, prop. build, You: as
tall or taller, good build, 37 to 47,
lean & mean. Aggressive, demanding.
For training, B&D, W/S, oral service.

Mature Black Men
This GWM, 165#, submissive deep
throat & bottom seeks-black men, 4060, for continuous love sessions. SF
and East Bay welcome.

6446.

Chubby-Daddy-Teddy-GrizzlyBear Castro. 49 yo, 6', 240#, deeeep voice, short groomed beard & stache, hairy chest, 6" cut, safe, sane, versa-tile and fun. You be TRIM and ready to play. No drugs. 22 6647.

Full Body/Strng Sensual/Oil Mass Wanted by handsome, athletic, smooth-skinned friendly Asian male on a regular basis. I enjoy receiving lengthy head to toe massages. S 6648.

Sex Massage
Dominant, well-hung man, 40, seeks
passive guy with muscular butt and
legs to massage and probe with my
hands, fingers, dildos, dick. 22 6649.

East Bay Erotic Sensuous BM, 9+" uncut, 6', 195#, masculine, squeaky clean, honest, HIV-, seeks similar well hung and/or big beefy, muscular built, round bubble butt, a plus BM, race open. \$\old{\text{\$\old{Q}\$}} 6550.

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words

Naked At The Door Have you ever answered your door stark naked? Lean, masculine W M, 40, wants to interview trim, mascu-line young guys for sex and nudity survey. 12 6651.

FETISHES

Get The Spanking You Deserve GWM, 40's, gives old-fashioned over the knee discipline with my hand, paddle & belt on your pants, shorts & bare butt. Pants-down corporal punishment delivered not abuse. Any age OK.

6461.

Muscle Worship
WM, late 40's, seeks muscular guys
of any size into pumping up, posing,
flexing and being admired. Especially
like defined biceps, hot pecs. Asians a
plus. № 6462.

Raunchy Bitch Boy
Seeking dominant, masculine Daddies/Leatherman to train nasty hardcore toilet mouth. Cigar smoking
Masters to feed & use and abuse me.

Submissive Wanted Gay Or Bi Submissive Wanted Gay Or Bi Expert dominant will train and re-ward in shape submissive/if you please. Short or long leash. Muscu-lar, 45, 6'1", good-looking. If this isn't you scene, don't bother. \$20 6464.

Hungry Hands Seek Hungry Hole FF top, new to scene, can't get enough. Me: GWM, 6'3", 155#, 25, shaved head, stash, goatee. you: any race or body type. Balt/balding, hairy, facial hair A+. № 6465.

Hot Guy W/Toe Ring Sks Barefoot Buddy. Masculine, tan, good-looking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, safe 10 fantasies. Light odor, toughened soles OK. Further friendship possible.

6466.

Spanking Needed
Visiting X-college football jock needs
bare ass Spanking, you an experienced TOP, please slide your hands
over my fat, smooth ass and remove
my jock, I enjoy humiliation, fucking
optional, not required.

6467.

Have A Foot Or Leg Injury?
Are you in a cast, brace, bandages, medical shoe, crutches, wheelchair injust have big swollen feet? Age and race unimportant. Me: 24, 5'8", 158#, good-looking.

6468.

Obey Me
1SO slave, who lives only to serve me.
Slave must be devoted 18-39, GWM,
HIV-, in-shape, clean shaven, into
whatever may please my whims. The
Master is 32, GWM, HIV-, 5'8".

6469.

Bare Butt Spankings So Cal boy, 31, 6'2", 185#, frequently in SF, seeks similar for stern discipline sessions, give and get. Not into bondage.

6470.

Foreskin-Got 172 Love To Play With it, pull, tug, chew on it. Put my tongue or finger in it & circle your cockhead. Got any cheese? Looking for wkday playtime. Me: \$71.7", trim, 40's, HIV-, nice cut cock for you to play with. Call. @ 6530.

Hairy In Shape Fighter I'm WM, 5'10", 172#, 49, HIV-, I'm WM, 5'10'', 172#, 49, HIV-, looking for others into long sweaty fight scenes. I get into punching, hair pulling, slapping, tough safe man to man combat.

26531.

Feel The Difference! GWM will shave your crotch, balls, ass & more! Fun, safe experienced. All ages, all eth. origins. Let's talk! 6532.

Daytime Asshole Eater!
"Get your asshole eaten by a pro."

6541.

Show Off Those Hard-Ons
JO, show off hard, walk around with
it out. We meet at different, sleazy
places around the city. If you like to
hang out with a boner, give us a call.

6533

Parade And Flaunt
Older gentleman wants a young bea
ty to pose for him stark naked with
stiff hard penis rampant.
© 6534.

Need A Hot Lick
Truly an asshole eater first, w/rim
chair. Me: Hisp, hot, attr, 5'11",
165#, 40. You: hot, in shape, to 45,
w/puckering hole & lips.
6535.

Medical Top Sought
By btm, I have operating room, table enema gear, restraints, caths, NG tubes, sounds, rubber & more. HIV-, NS, 5'9'', 178#, clean cut, 40's, very discreet.

© 6536.

Fit To Be Tied! Slave seeks experienced Leather Master for bondage and S&M. Am 39, masculine, good looks and build. No drugs! 22 6537.

HIV+ WM East Bay
Seeks other HIV+ guys for mutual
oral and jack off sessions. Any race,
under 35. Shaved and cut a plus.

6538.

Big Bears & Cigars
WM, 35, looking for smokin' bear
buddy to explore some man to man
action, raunch, WS, etc. \$2,6539.

In Search Of Dog-Slave
For ownership, obedience training,
collaring, bondage, SM, etc. Prefer
young, small and slim or muscular,
short hair breed. \$\omega\$ 6540.

Bondage Novice Seeks Master
To instruct in the art of restraint. Me: 6', 180#, bl/bl-gr, average build, eager for hands-on teaching form wrist/ankles to mummification. You: 30+, experienced. 22 6542.

Sheer Delights And More!
GWM, 32, 6'3'', 200#, HIV-, Scandinavian looking, bld/bl, size 11 feet, seeking men into sheer socks, speedos, biking shorts as turn on, foreplay, can lead to sex. Seek 25-35.

6652.
6652.

Pec Overdrive
WM, 41, masculine, athletic, AllAmerican, 6′, 190#, strong, muscular, trim, solid othest, big arms, HIV-,
not into scene. Seeks short, shy, beefy
WM with big erogenous pecs, nipples.

6653.

Mature Straight Needs WM 65-70
To humiliate me, tie me down, shave genitals, use toys on virgin ass torment cock denying climatic jerk off on my face. Hose me down while I jack off. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6654.

Masculine, healthy and ready to serve your boots. Feel the power and passion at the bottom of your being. I'm there. 20 6655.

Boot/Foot Slave Seeks Playmate GWM, 30, totally into worshipping boots, socks & feet, in search of Latino or white Master/playmate for kinky times. I'm 5'10", 160, br/br, GL. 22 6656.

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sneaker looks wants to sit in on your
next session. 2 or more guys in their
20's & 30's who are clean cut.
Leather, facial hair, over 39 are turnoffs. © 6657.

Scat Is Where It's At!
Super hot commode mouth sucks,
licks and eats all from manly hot dudes. I dig short hair, stash or not.
I'm HIV-, sport police tattooes, trim
nice build, wear uniforms, leather,
jocks, boots and levis. Versatile, but need raunch. 120 6659.

WM Cut With Nice Big Clean feet. Come get naked, lay back, relax and let a 50's hot mouth and tongue lick and suck your feet and more. \$\frac{10}{20}\$ 6660.

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hung guys. Tops a plus. 22 6543.

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Russian River Couple Seeks Man Biker Bear, 45, 6'3", goatee, shaved head, 225#, into 501's, boots. My partiner—unimportant. Bear needs a hot, masculine top to fuck this cheap, manly ass as summer live in. \$2 6661.

Hot Tub Adventures
Gdlkg, in shape, sex crazed, GWC,
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couples or more for poundin' good
times. № 6662.

ISO Dildo Play With Hot Couple Attractive GWM, mostly bottom, ex-hibitionist, seeks tops or versatile for nasty butt play. Interests include big boys, fingering, dirty talk, mirrors, stings. Let's get the dildos out and play. S 6663.

OTHER

Baseball Fans
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ad? I haven't met many fans since I
moved to SF. Please call if you'd like
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6472.

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6546.

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Any Language, Food 4 Our Souls Is passionate discourse and touch. "Spanish language conversation practice desired!" Friendly attractive bisexual blue eyed gentleman in mid-30's. © 6664.

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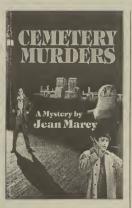


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Dead weight

by Deborah Peifer

Cemetery Murders by Jean Marcy; New Victoria, \$10.95

ean Marcy is the pen name of Jean Hutchison and Marcy Jacobs, and that fact may be a clue to what is wrong with this novel. Cemetery Murders has the feel of a composition by committee, of compromise rather than a story that demands telling. Meg Darcy is a dyke dick who works in her Uncle Walter's agency. Miller her Uncle Walter's agency, Miller Security, doing the sort of petty investigations that are the meat and potatoes of any small opera-tion. Miller Security finds lost dogs, contracts private security, and mostly eschews messy di-

vorces. When Meg's friend, Ann, calls hysterically with the news that her Aunt Mary Margaret, the that her Aunt Mary Margaret, the one with Alzheimer's, has wandered away from the nursing home, Meg jumps in to organize the search, one that is made more urgent by three unsolved murders of elderly homeless women in the area. The discovery of Mary Margaret's garroted body gives Meg a chance to help her friend's family by conducting her own investigation, a decision that royally frosts the cop in charge of the case, the gorgeous and enigmatic Sarah Lindstrom.

On the way to its conclusion, Marcy offers all sorts of unsatisfying subplots concerning, among

Marcy offers all sorts of unsatistying subplots concerning, among
other things, the aforementioned
missing dog, various homeless
women, and, of course, whether
Meg and Sarah will get it on. But
several of the subplots are raised
only to be dropped with an inconclusive thud, while others are
neither believable nor necessary
to the main story.

to the main story.

The murders of homeless The murders of homeless women, and the attitude of a populace that regards these women as eminently discardable, is a powerful issue, one that deserves more than the perfunctory treatment it gets here. Cemetery Murders is not the worst mystery I've ever read (hell, it's not the worst I've read this month), but it is also not a this month), but it is also not a novel I can recommend to any reader who likes a little mystery in her mystery.

House of cards

by Deborah Peifer

No Daughter of the South by Cynthia Webb; New Victoria, \$10.95

really wanted to find something good to say about No
Daughter of the South. Author
Cynthia Webb is an attorney with an MFA in creative writing, sure-ly a combination of skills and background that would lead to compelling storytelling. You'd think so, but think again.

Laurie Coldwater is a love 'em and leave 'em kind of dyke, until she meets Samantha, who teaches her the joys of family life and commitment. Samantha just hap-



pens to be from the same small Southern town as Laurie, but be-cause Laurie is white and Saman tha black, they had never met before. After the two get to know each other, Samantha asks if Lau-rie could check to see if she can uncover any facts about her fa-ther's mysterious demise some ther's mysterious demise some years ago. Okay. A black woman thinks a white woman can just find out about the unexplained death (read: murder) of a black man, that she can just stroll into the heart of Klan country and ask who might have murdered a black man. And Samantha doesn't think for a moment that there might be any danger involved (although she does tell Laurie, after Laurie is nearly raped and murthough she does tell Laurie, after Laurie is nearly raped and murdered, that she no longer needs to look into the matter). By then, of course, Laurie is so into the whole thing that she cannot be dissuaded. Oh, yeah, that's believable.

The resurgence of the KKK is a mighty important topic, one that deserves serious exploration, but when snippets about the Klan are layered into this unbelievable mystery, the whole issue becomes

tery, the whole issue becomes ridiculous, rather than compelling.

Webb does a good job on her main characters, Laurie and Samantha, but the others — Lau-rie's family, Samantha's family, the rie's family, Samantha's family, the Klan members, the cops—are all the flattest stereotypes. The dialogue drags, the plot plods, the whole thing just crawls along from one unbelievable event to another. The subplots (Laurie connects with her mother, achieves closure with her ex-husband, finds old school chums and changes their lives) are distracting, unimportant, and not haning, unimportant, and not handled credibly. *No Daughter of the South* is not worth your time or treasure. \blacktriangledown

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THEATRE

Ready for that close-up

Billy De Herrera, that talented San Francisco playwright, designer, actor, singer, and drag legend, has been working hard for several months now on a marvelous new show that will be ongoing at Josie's, starting Sunday, June 15. De Herrera's Vanity Case follows the misadventures of a glamorous dish named Vanity as she sets dish named Vanity as she sets outs on a theatrical career that takes her from Oklahoma to Artakes her from Oklahoma to Argentina and to other places in between. Along the way, Billy encounters various boys from several boys choruses as well as a weekly special guest (or two). Expect the usual phantasmagorical costume and wig changes in addition to plenty of laughs Vanity Case will be performed every Sunday, beginning June 15 at Josie's, 3583 16th St. Call 861-7933 for tickets and information. Shows are at 10 p.m. ▼



Out There

◆ page 39

'70s because she couldn't stay out of the limelight long enough to bring the poor thing to term.

Lesbian nuisance

Oily tells us that Ellen De-Generes and Anne Heche are about to break up, that the two actresses are at each other's throats constantly, and that shrill screaming has been heard coming from Ellen's palatial Hollywood home. Tinsel Town wheeler-dealer Arthur Imperato, who manages Arthur Imperato, who manages both actress' careers, denies rumors of an impending break-up. He told Variety, "Talk of a break-up is as untrue as the rumor that Heche would be replaced as Harrison Ford's romance partner in Six Days, Seven Nights."

Still, Oily reports that Anne's daily visits to ABC's Ellen set are driving everyone crazy. The actress reportedly likes to order peo-

ple around, never lets Ellen out of her sight, and enjoys telling writ-ers, directors, and producers what to do with the show. New York gossip queen Cindy Adams cor-roborated this goss by quoting an ABC underling who said, "Anne strikes me as the type who is com-pletely unable to take a hint, or who takes pleasure in ignoring it."

Bent and bruised

Bent and bruised

Too bad about that screen adaptation of Bent, Martin Sherman's play about the persecution of queers in Nazi Germany. Apparently it's a real stinker. Yet, ironically, it has everything going for it: Sherman's own screenplay, Sean Mathias directing, score by Philip Glass, and a cast that includes lan McKellen, Clive Owen, and Mick Jagger, who pops up as a transvestite cabaret pops up as a transvestite cabaret singer. But, according to Variety, "excessive cutting, often in the midst of crucial monologues" has hobbled some of the film's key

Produced by Britain's innovative Channel Four, Bent was picked up by Goldwyn for a com-mercial run after it played Cannes last month. Word is the distributor hoped it would be a good vehicle with which to reach the increasingly popular queer film market, but considering the vast number of homosexuals who know and revere Sherman's play, backing a D-version hardly

Mea culpa

Pithy hates making mistakes, but she has to own up to two enormous ones she made last week in this column. The Reagan offspring who attacked Harvey Fierstein on Politically Incorrect was not Ron Reagan Jr., as reported, it was actually Mike Reagan, the child Big Ronnie had via Jane Wyman. And it was local composer Conrad Sousa who composer Conrad Sousa who wrote *The Dangerous Liaisons*, not Andre Previn. Pithy promises to do better in the future. ▼

PHOTOGRAPHY

Posener pics



hotographs by photographer Jill Posener will be shown in a solo show at the headquarters of Levi Strauss & Co. in San Francisco during the last two weeks in June. The exhibit and a June 14th reception for the artist are free and open to the public. For more information, call 501-7349. Levi Strauss is located at 1155 Battery Street.

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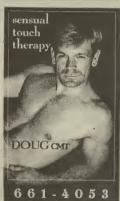
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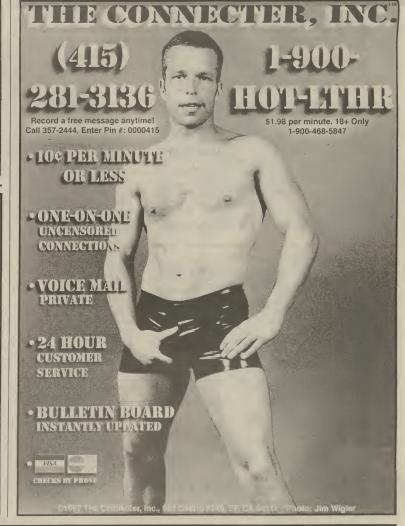
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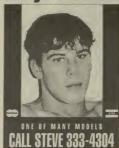
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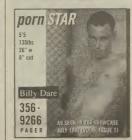
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